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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Instead of awarding it to Integrated Professional Solutions, should the government have had opened the outsourcing of the CNMI's ARRA Office to a bid?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Another Recall

Just when Toyota thought its safety problems were over, they flare up all over again.

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Deadly Blast

The force of the blast was so powerful it decapitated two passengers on the bus.

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License to Kill

Russian spy Anna Chapman was revealed by others in June as a sleeper agent in the United States.

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CPA OK's $1.4M insurance policy for airport, seaport properties. PAGE 3

Gov't now owes $8.5M for marina

Pellegrino

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The government's debt to Marine Revitalization Corp. has ballooned to $8.5 million over a marina that cost $3.5 million to build in 1995 and may become worthless in a few years because of a lack of maintenance.

Businessman Anthony Pellegrino, president of Marine Revitalization Corp., wrote to lawmakers to express his disappointment on an increasing government debt that is being blamed on legislators.

"I may receive or I may not receive the money due for this injustice being done to me and MRC. But it is even sadder when a community loses a major development to be given to it free that has improved its tourism industry because of the narrow minds of its administration. Do we wonder why the CNMI keeps getting a bad reputation in which its government cannot be trusted?" Pellegrino told lawmakers.

Pellegrino said the Babauta and Fitial administrations simply refused to pay the judgment. As a result, the debt has increased monthly by $45,000 or $540,000 annually, and is now at $8.5 million.

The Superior Court thrice ordered the government to pay MRC, but to no avail.

"This administration has told the Superior Court it cannot pay because you, the Legislature, have failed to

See MARINA on Page 4

Currencies center stage as G20 gets underway

By TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

GYEONGJU, South Korea (AP)—Japan warned Friday that the global economy will lose if countries compete to devalue their currencies, as top finance officials from the world's leading economies gathered for two days of talks they hope will defuse growing tensions over exchange rates.

Economic "fundamentals should be reflected in foreign exchange rates," Japanese Finance Minister Yoshihiko Noda told reporters. "Excessive volatility in currency markets is harmful to the stability of the global economy and financial system."

Noda's comments underscore predictions that currency issues will take center stage at the meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of 20 rich and emerging nations, which takes place ahead of a G-20 leaders summit in Seoul next month.

The gathering in the South Korean city of Gyeongju comes just two weeks after the finance mandarins failed at a meeting in Washington to iron out differences that have led to fears of a currency war that

See CURRENCIES on Page 4

AP

South Korean protesters shout slogans during a rally against the G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in front of the government complex in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010.

SESSION BREAK HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan), Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), Commonwealth Zoning Board chair Herminia Fusco, and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ray B. Camacho confer during a break in the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation session on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon. Saipan lawmakers filed—or killed—a local bill suspending the Zoning Act of 2008, but a House bill of the same nature is now pending.

New law allows raising of Sambar deer in captivity

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law on Tuesday a bill allowing the domestication or raising of Sambar deer in captivity.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao's (Ind-Rota) Senate Bill 17-13, House Draft 1 is now Public Law 17-23.

The hunting of Sambar deer or "Binadu" in Chamorro is seasonal, as established by regulation to control their continued existence and prevent their extinction.

Fitial

Taimanao said there are people in the CNMI who are currently raising Sambar deer in captivity and many have expressed similar interest if there's law or regulation that would allow.

The new law requires an individual to secure a license to domesticate Sambar deer. This captive rearing license will have to be renewed annually, and it is the responsibility of the permit holder to keep the license up to date.

Holders of the captive reading permit may sell the meat or any part of such animals as long as a "certificate of origin" accompanies the sale. Permit holders may also use meat and animal parts as a personal food source.

See NEW LAW on Page 4

Local

CPA OK's $1.4M insurance policy for airport, seaport properties

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority approved a $1.4 million property insurance policy for its airports and seaports for this fiscal year.

During Thursday's special board meeting, CPA executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero and comptroller Derek Sasamoto justified the need to procure the insurance policy for six specific areas: airport property, third party liability, directors and officers liability, commercial vehicle, comprehensive crime, and marine property liability.

Deleon Guerrero disclosed that of the $1.4 million insurance policy, $588,059 covers all of the property at the airports while $771,478 covers seaport facilities.

Based on insurance policy, CPA is required to make 20 percent down payment for the policy which amounts to $280,000, while the remaining balance is to be paid in installment basis before the fiscal year ends in September 2011.

CPA disclosed that property insurance at the airport totaled $369,000, while third party liability insurance cost $192,500. Directors and officers liability totaled $33,300 of which $16,650 will cover for airport and $16,650 for seaport.

For commercial vehicle insurance, the board approved a premium costing $10,213 of which $7,659 covers the airport, while $2,553 is for the seaport.

Insurance for comprehensive crime totaled $1,350 which is equally split for the airport and seaport.

Marine property insurance liability for the seaport area is $750,925.

Saipan Tribune learned that airport property was valued at over $58.5 million last fiscal year. For FY 2011, the said property is valued at $62 million—or an increase of $3.5 million from last fiscal year.

CPA revealed that marine property was valued at $34.4 million for FY 2011, up $1.4 million from the $32.9 million recorded in FY 2010.

4th suspect also nabbed in anti-drug operation

Police arrested another man for alleged possession of methamphetamine or "ice" on Wednesday or the day when authorities picked up three suspected suppliers of "ice" on Saipan.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Police Officer 2 Eric F. David said yesterday that detectives arrested George Satoshi of Dandan after they recovered controlled substance in his vehicle.

David said that, on Wednesday the Superior Court issued three arrest warrants for the arrest of three suspected "ice" traffickers.

David said the court also issued a warrant to search a vehicle suspected as being used in narcotics activities based on information gathered by the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force.

The DPS spokesman said when the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives were conducting briefing on Wednesday at 4pm on how to serve the arrest warrants and

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
A Superior Court marshal escorts suspected "ice" supplier Mendel Jeffrey Techur (front) and four other defendants in separate criminal cases after a hearing on Thursday.

to search the car, the 42-year-old Satoshi was arrested on site after they found controlled substance in his vehicle.

David said the passenger of the vehicle, Mendel Jeffrey Techur, 37, was also arrested in connection with drug trafficking.

David said the vehicle was impounded and towed to the DPS compound for further investigation and inventory.

Also arrested that day, were Anthony Villanueva, 32, and Karlene Reyes Lizama, 37.

Detective Steven A. Castro stated in his report that on Oct. 7, 2010 authorities using a confidential source was able to purchase $50 worth of "ice" from Techur inside a car in Chalan Kanoa.

Villanueva allegedly served as the driver of the car.

Drug Enforcement Task Force Detective Sean White said that on Oct. 7, 2010 using a cooperating source they were able to buy $100 worth of "ice" from Lizama in Garapan. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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DPH to curtail 'generous' benefits of medical referral program

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Due to the limited funding for the Commonwealth Health Center's operations this year, some benefits under the medical referral program would soon be curtailed, according to Department of Public Health Secretary Kevin Joseph Villagomez.

The health chief described the current benefits as generous and no longer practical as the CNMI government faces financial uncertainties.

"We're looking at curtailing some of the benefits [that] used to be part of the medical referral program like the subsistence allowance. We will ask the public that need to go off-island for medical treatment to [dig] deep down in their pockets for [their] own subsistence," admitted Villagomez.

Under the existing program, escorts have also been provided to patients who need to seek medical treatment outside the Commonwealth.

Villagomez said the department will streamline who qualifies to escort the patient to reduce travel costs.

"We will still have the program, but it's much more well-defined and streamlined. We cannot afford to continue provide generous benefits like we've done in the past because of budget issues," he said.

Just recently, Villagomez's office received a letter from medical referral office employees and their patients in Hawaii appealing to reconsider any plan of cutting down services.

The health chief said for now operations on all medical referral services, including those in Hawaii, Guam, and Manila offices, will remain the same.

"The issue of medical referral services is not just an issue in Hawaii but in all offices including here, in Guam, and Manila. If we're going to curtail referral services, it's not from that side but we will start in this side. If we cannot afford to send patients off-island because we don't have the means to do so…then we will take the steps to do it. But now it's status quo," he said.

Villagomez, however, admitted that DPH is presently looking at the number of referrals and see how they could save on the area.

"Some referrals are really for follow-ups. If we can communicate with the doctors to delay the follow-up in a few months, we will request for that. If it's cheaper to bring specialists here for them, we're looking into that option as well. Basically, we're closely looking at the entire medical referral process," he said, adding that DPH will keep the medical referral program because it's working for total health care delivery for the public.

Villagomez disclosed that in a given year, DPH allocates from $4 million to $7 million for the medical referral program.

However, because of the unavailability of the health insurance of many patients, the government has been forced to pay for their expenses with the agreement that repayments will be made by the patients.

"A lot of people, due to dire financial issues, are dropping off their health insurance and that's our huge concern for now. If they're not qualified for Medicaid, the government has to pay for the cost. So we encourage the community not do drop off their health insurance especially with those who have health issues…" said Villagomez.

Health insurance is not mandatory for all government employees.

The medical referral services is just among the important divisions of CHC, which is now in a state of emergency.

Saipan Tribune learned that CHC recorded $16.3 million in expenditure for medical referral services in four years ending in FY 2009. Of the figure, $5.5 million was spent for medical claims and $4.7 million was used for patient's transportation.

Navy to conduct training on Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training on Warning Area-517 on Oct. 26 from 9am to 5pm.

The general public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and date indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10"N/144° 30"E, 13° 10"N/144° 42"E, 12° 50"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/143° 00"E, 11° 45"N/143° 00"E, 12° 50"N/144° 30"E.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 339-3209. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Nanmeido open house today

Nanmeida or the International House of Prayer at the Sugar King Park is inviting the public to attend its open house in the occasion of its 20th anniversary today, Oct. 23, from 9am to 3pm. The service will be held from 11am to 11:40am. Rev. Sogen Yamakawa from Shogenji in Gifu, Japan will serve as officiating priest together with Nanmeido supervisor Rev. Shinryu Akita.

Nanmeido is a non-sectarian temple dedicated to the spirits of the U.S. and Japanese soldiers and the local people who lost their lives in the Battle of Saipan in 1944.

Inside the temple is a large Peace Bell hanging from the ceiling. Gifu Buddhist Association donated the Peace Bell as a symbol of world peace in 2006. ***(PR)***

Pelly on *Marianas Agupa* for Saturday's Radio Talk Show

Marianas Agupa will feature Tony Pelligrino of Saipan Ice Company in today's program. The show airs from 10:15am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be the proposed slaughter house that will enable local ranchers to be part development plan.

The Chamorro Talk Show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Featured reports are as follows: World report by former mayor Joseph S. Inos followed by special report from former Rep. Tina Sablan, Saipan correspondent and commentator.

The talk show airs every Saturday between 9am and 11am. Additionally, the show features a special report from Rota with correspondent and commentator Thomas D. Mendiola from Rota and a report from Tinian by correspondent and radio commentator former senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous airing via internet at www.magic100radio.com. ***(PR)***

UOG to hold workshop on grant writing for farmers

The University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service will hold a farmer grant writing workshop focusing on the grants available under the USDA Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Program. The workshop will be held Tuesday night, Oct. 26, from 6pm to 8:30pm. It will be held in Room 104 of the Agriculture and Life Sciences building on the UOG campus.

These grants are ideal for farmers, or organizations working with farmers, wanting to demonstrate a new sustainable agriculture practices. They are also suited for educators wanting to involve in students in agriculture.

The workshop will cover the completing applications, program requirements and previously funded grants to Guam and our neighbor islands. For more information call 735-2080 or 735-2081 or 735-2072. ***(PR)***

Public Service Announcement

This is to invite all interested home appliance distributors, retailers and vendors to register to participate in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Energy Star Rebate Program (CNMI-EECBG-ARRA-ESRP) as a Qualified Participating Vendor or Retailer of Energy Star Rated – Energy Efficient Appliances.

To participate and qualify as a registered participating distributor, retailer or vendor in the Program, interested parties must meet the following minimum requirements and perform the services, as stated below:

1. **Must have the ability to supply, deliver, and install, new ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washers, refrigerators, or room air conditioners, Only products that bare the Energy Star logo AND are listed on the ENERGY STAR qualified products lists available on www.energystar.gov are eligible for rebates as part of this program.**

   In addition, the EECBG-ESRP will also qualify, under USEPA standards, non-Energy Star rated split-type air-conditioning units with an Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) of 12.0 or higher and split-type air-conditioning units with Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) of 14.5 or higher.

2. **Must be able to provide the following required Services: 100% Haul-Away, 100%, Re-capturing of Refrigerants, 100% Decommissioning, Disposal, and Recycling of used Appliances replaced by the Program.**

3. **Must comply with all federal and CNMI laws and regulations relating to the proper recapturing, storage and disposal of all recovered refrigerants.**

4. **Must agree to adhere to any and all additional requirements of the Program.**

Letters of Requests to Participate in the Program must be addressed to:

Ms. Thelma B. Inos
Director
CNMI Energy Division Office

and must also include a statement certifying that minimum requirements are met and that the above services could be performed.

Letters **shall be submitted** to and received by the CNMI Energy Division Office, **located at House No. 1337, Ascencion Dr., Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 27, 2010**

On October 27, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., presentation will be conducted on the program for all registered retailers or vendors at the **CNMI Energy Office**. All registered retailers and vendors must attend the presentation on the Program.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

OCTOBER 23, 2010

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD WILL HOLD ITS QUARTERLY MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WAKIN'S BUILDING, CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENDA

- **I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - 1. Roll Call
  - 2. Adoption of Agenda
  - 3. Adoption of Minutes
- **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **III. REPORTS**
  - 1. Executive Director's Report
  - 2. Comptroller's Report
  - 3. Legal Counsel's Report
- **IV. DIVISIONS/COMMITTEES**
  - 1. Administrative Matters/Personnel & Budget
  - 2. Development Corporation Division (DCD)
  - 3. DBD/Public Finance Committee
  - 4. QC Program/Economic Development Activities
    - a. Saipan LauLau Development, Inc. d.b.a. LaoLao Bay Golf Resort – Request for Change in Shareholders
- **V. OLD BUSINESS**
  - 1. Update on the Lease of Pacific Gardenia Hotel Properties
  - 2. Follow up on 2010 Dialogue on CDA Matters
  - 3. Follow up on 2010 Open House
  - 4. CDA Board Resolution 2010-004
- **VI. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. Proposal for a Study to Build CDA Office
- **VII. OTHER MATTERS**
  - 1. ADFIAP Membership
- **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ PEDRO I. ITIBUS
Chairman, CDA Board of Director

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Regular meeting Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at the NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.

AGENDA

- **I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of Agenda
  - D. Adoption of Minutes of Meetings
    - 1. June 11, 2010
    - 2. July 1, 2010
    - 3. August 26, 2010
    - 4. September 29, 2010
- **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **III. REPORTS**
  - A. Report of the Chairman
    - 1. Communication
  - B. Report of the Administrator/Deputy Administrator
    - 1. Communication
    - 2. Status of Investment
    - 3. Accounting Report
      - a) NMI Retirement Fund
      - b) GHLITF
      - c) WCC
    - 4. Member Home Loan Program
    - 5. Other Administrative Status/Updates
  - C. Reports of the Committees
    - 1. Operations, Personnel & Review
    - 2. Finance & Investment
    - 3. Special
  - D. Report of the Internal Auditor
- **IV. LEGAL MATTERS**
  - A. Reports of the Legal Counsels and Administrative Hearing Officer
    - 1. Report of the Board Counsel
    - 2. Report of the Hearing Officer
- **V. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Suspension of Fund Activities
  - B. Cost Reduction Measures
- **VI. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. NMIRF Case No. 10-001
  - B. NMIRF Case No. 10-002
  - C. Investment Consultant Presentation
  - D. Alternate AHO
  - E. Adoption as Permanent - Emergency Regs re: Life Insurance
  - F. Adoption of Emergency Regs re: Health Insurance Rate Changes
- **VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- **VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**
  - A. Announcements
  - B. Next Meeting
  - C. Adjournment

/s/ SIXTO K. IGISOMAR
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Man gets 30-day jail term for domestic violence; agrees to leave CNMI

The Superior Court has imposed a 30-day jail term on a man accused of forcibly taking his former girlfriend to his barracks in Garapan.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja sentenced Eddie Reyes Luto to one year in jail, all suspended except for 30 days, for assault and battery, a crime of domestic violence.

Naraja gave Luto credit for the five days he already served in jail.

The defendant was ordered to start serving the 25-day remaining jail term today, Saturday, at the Department of Corrections in Susupe. He is expected to be released on Nov. 7, 2010.

After completing the jail term, Luto will be placed on 11 months of probation and required to pay a $90 probation fee and a $25 court assessment fee.

Luto, a Filipino, agreed to voluntarily leave the CNMI within 60 days of his release from jail. He agreed not to come back for at least after 10 years.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Luto with assault and battery, kidnapping, and disturbing the peace.

The defendant and counsel signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to assault and battery, a crime of domestic violence.

As part of the plea agreement, assistant attorney general Peter Prestley moved to dismiss the remaining charges. The court granted the motion.

According to the plea agreement, on May 27, 2010 on Saipan, Luto assaulted the victim.

Detective Jonathan Decena stated in his report that Luto went to a restaurant in Garapan where the victim was working that night.

Luto asked the former girlfriend to follow him to his barracks so they could talk.

When the victim refused, the defendant insisted. When they arrived at his barracks, Luto allegedly grabbed the victim, causing her to fall on her knees. The defendant then dragged her to his room and took her cell phone and keys.

The victim later managed to run outside. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Indictment filed vs DPW official for extortion

An indictment has been filed in federal court against Department of Public Works building code inspector Thomas Sablan Salas for allegedly extorting money from a printing press owner.

The indictment charged the 42-year-old Salas with one count of extortion under color of official right.

According to the indictment, on Sept. 17, 2010 the defendant committed an extortion by obtaining property from another person.

Salas allegedly used his position with the DPW to demand bribes from a business in exchange for withholding administrative functions.

At yesterday's arraignment, Salas pleaded not guilty.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley appeared for the government.

With the indictment, U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Roger T. Benitez vacated the preliminary hearing scheduled for Oct. 27, 2010 at 9am.

Benitez set the jury trial for Dec. 13, 2010 at 9am.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested Salas last Sept. 17 after he allegedly extorted a total of $200 cash from a printing press owner in exchange for not imposing alleged building code violation fines. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

2 tropical depressions bring isolated showers

As Tropical Depression 16W continued to move westward from the Marianas, another tropical depression slowly turned away from Wake Island.

The U.S. National Weather Service based in Guam, however, reported that no watches or warnings were in effect in the Marianas region as of late yesterday afternoon.

At 1pm, the center of Tropical Depression 16W was 495 miles west-northwest of Saipan and 490 miles northwest of Guam.

Packing maximum sustained winds of 30 miles per hour, Tropical Depression 16W was moving westward at 11 miles per hour.

NWS expected Tropical Depression 16W to slowly intensify the next 24 hours.

Meanwhile, as of 1pm yesterday, Tropical Depression 17W's center was located 750 miles west-northwest of Wake Island, 755 miles northeast of Saipan, and 875 miles northeast of Guam.

With maximum sustained winds of 35 miles per hour, Tropical Depression 17W was moving west-northwest at 7 miles per hour.

NWS expected Tropical Depression 17W to turn toward the north and decrease in forward speed during the next 24 hours.

NWS's forecast is that Tropical Depression 17W will slowly get weak during the next 24 hours then dissipates sometime today, Saturday.

The depressions brought isolated showers in the Marianas the whole day and night yesterday. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Two young students of Mount Carmel School hold Halloween books displayed at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. The CNMI's state library will host Halloween Storytime at 10am on Oct. 30.

Celebrate Halloween at Joeten-Kiyu

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library gears up in celebrating the spookiest time of the year.

Scary characters, spiders, tangled webs, and pumpkin replicas now adorn the Children of our Homeland Center as part of the library's Halloween celebration.

Children's Library Associate Erlinda C. Naputi said Halloween books for children to read and enjoy are highlighted at the center.

Naputi told *Saipan Tribune* that they will be hosting Halloween Storytime at 10:00am next Saturday, Oct. 30 in line with their Halloween celebration.

The Halloween Storytime will replace the regular Children's Storytime at the library every Saturday.

Naputi encouraged all students to visit the library on Oct. 30 and take part in their Halloween Storytime.

She also urged teachers and parents to support this worthwhile activity by promoting it to the children and bringing them to the library.

For more information, contact the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at 235-7324. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

NEW LAW

From Page 1

Under the law, captive permit holders will be responsible for any expenses incurred to property if their captive animals escape and for the costs to the Division of Fish and Wildlife of recapturing the animals.

Captive deer impounded by DFW enforcement officers will be humanely euthanized, and meat from such animals may be sold or distributed to the elderly at the discretion of the DFW director.

Holding or rearing facilities for captive Sambar deer should have a pen of at least five meters on each side for a single animal, at least two meters in height, and constructed of materials that are strong enough to withstand typhoons, among other minimum standards.

CURRENCIES

From Page 1

could trigger another economic downturn.

In such a scenario, countries devalue their currencies to gain a competitive advantage in a less-than-robust world economy that has yet to fully recover from the global financial meltdown two years ago. Trade barriers are erected in response, hitting international commerce and sending the economic recovery into reverse.

A South Korean government official said the fact finance officials are discussing the currency issue is itself a "good achievement."

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as discussions on the issue were ongoing, said he expects "some progress" at the meeting with language aimed at avoiding a "currency war."

"I don't know whether we can make it by the end of this tomorrow or by (the) Seoul summit, but we believe and we hope that countries are willing to cooperate on that point," the official said.

The Group of Seven industrialized nations, which includes the U.S., Japan, U.K., France, Germany, Italy and Canada, met for informal talks ahead of the full G-20 gathering later Friday. Noda said there was no set agenda for the G7 meeting.

The talks will help set the agenda for a Nov. 11-12 summit of G-20 leaders. U.S. President Barack Obama and the other heads of state will attend the summit.

Separately, Brazil, Russia, India and China—the so-called BRIC countries—were holding a meeting ahead of the G-20 gathering to discuss issues of mutual interest including reform of the International Monetary Fund and increasing trade and investment among themselves, according to D.S. Malik, an official with India's Ministry of Finance.

China, the world's No. 2 economy, is under renewed pressure over its management of the yuan, which the U.S., the European Union and Japan say is undervalued, giving its exporters an unfair competitive advantage.

The broad weakening of the dollar and the outlook for possible further monetary easing by the Federal Reserve is another factor adding to the strain. And so-called hot money investment flows into emerging countries in search of higher yields than can be fetched in the developed world have turned up the heat on those currencies, particularly in Asian nations such as South Korea.

Some governments as a result have tried to stem currency appreciation through measures including direct intervention in markets or by imposing controls on capital or taxes on foreign investment.

A senior Treasury Department official told reporters in Washington Wednesday the currency issue would be a major topic at the G20.

"When large economies with undervalued exchange rates act to keep their currencies from appreciating, it compels other countries to do the same," the official said. "It is bad for the system, bad for all of us."

The official spoke under ground rules that did not permit identification by name in advance of the G-20 meetings.

One idea mentioned by U.S. officials is to establish numerical targets for current account deficits or surpluses to control trade imbalances.

The Treasury official refused to say whether the U.S. would support inclusion of such a limit, such as 4 percent of a country's total economy. Noda offered a more definitive opinion, calling the idea "unrealistic."

MARINA

From Page 1

appropriate any money to pay the judgment. The irony of all this is that the administration has never requested the Legislature to appropriate any money," Pellegrino told lawmakers.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said yesterday that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, when he was the speaker of the 14th Legislature, could have solved this matter had his leadership approved legislation to pay upfront $800,000 which was what Pellegrino was asking at the time.

He said the rest, or $1.2 million, could have been paid from revenues generated from the Outer Cove Marina.

Benavente, who was the lieutenant governor at the time and chair of a committee working on the issue, said he was able to identify funding source for the $800,000, from the Commonwealth Development Authority.

"The speaker at the time, who is now the governor, refused giving that $800,000, saying, 'what about other judgments to the government?' We ended up getting stuck in a settlement agreement and when Pellegrino pursued it, we got a court judgment and now we have to pay $8.5 million," Benavente told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Fitial administration has yet to respond to questions about the matter.

Pellegrino, in a phone interview, said he had been talking to Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos about the matter, but he said he could not get a clear answer as to how and when MRC will receive payment.

In his six-page letter, he said the government should start to pay the $8.5 million now.

"MRC has always been willing to accept a reasonable payment plan. Instead, the administration blames the Legislature for not appropriating any money to pay toward the judgment," Pellegrino told lawmakers.

Benavente, for his part, said the administration has to come up with a proposal to pay its debt.

"What could have been an $800,000 upfront payment has become $8.5 million. The Legislature can be a part of the solution but a proposal has to come from the administration," he said.

MRC built the Outer Cove Marina in 1995, with the goal of turning it over to the government.

Pellegrino said had the government not breached the agreement, the construction cost would have been recovered from those using the marina.

"The marina was on lease that was set to expire on Aug. 21, 2010, and the CNMI would now own the marina itself without ever having to pay one cent for it," Pellegrino said.

The dispute started in 2001 when the government not only failed to bar commercial vessels from renting slip space at Smiling Cove, but also actively solicited commercial lessees, instead of encouraging them to use MRC's Outer Cove Marina.

In 2005, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources agreed to a judgment of the court ordering it to pay more than $5 million to MRC or Pellegrino.

DLNR, however, did not comply with the order that resulted in the court's three judgments, including the one issued in April 2009.

Pellegrino, a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said since no one is tending to the operations of the Outer Cove Marina, anybody can park his boat anywhere without any fees or regulations.

The fees that should have been collected are not being collected to maintain the marina, he also said.

"There is no maintenance being done at the marina. As a result, it is slowly reverting to its natural state and will become worthless in a few years," Pellegrino told lawmakers.

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Orange 89¢ LB.

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

'Don't 'Don't Vote'

Many Latinos are angry that immigration reform has not materialized. But a 'Don't Vote' ad campaign in Nevada is a cynical ploy to help Republican candidates.

Latinos who are frustrated with Congress' failure to adopt comprehensive immigration reform are being targeted with a lie: that the best strategy to achieve their goal is to stop participating in the democratic process. Don't vote. Be silent. Go uncounted to teach the politicians a lesson. But that approach cannot and will not work. No group in the United States has ever forwarded its political agenda by auto-disenfranchisement.

Last year there was a don't-fill-out-the-census campaign. This latest effort to marginalize Latinos has taken the form of a "Don't Vote" ad drive in Nevada, sponsored by an organization cynically misnamed Latinos for Reform. The group, led by conservative pundit and former Republican Party official Robert de Posada, is asking Latinos to punish Democrats for failing to pass immigration reform by staying home Nov. 2. If Latinos follow that advice, they will harm the reelection chances of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, who is locked in a tight race in Nevada. But the ads cleverly do not encourage Latinos to vote for Reid's Republican rival, Sharron Angle — a request that might backfire given that Angle has run ads demonizing illegal immigrants and supports SB 1070, Arizona's draconian anti-immigrant law.

De Posada gets points for Machiavellian thinking. It takes both creativity and chutzpah to encourage Latinos to give a boost to candidates who actually oppose the reform they seek. Here's Reid on immigration: "We must not forget that we are a nation founded on and built by immigrants. Our grandparents and great-grandparents came here to pursue the American dream, and we should honor that proud heritage as we work to reform our immigration laws." Here's Angle on immigration: "Every state should have a sheriff like Joe Arpaio. Go, Arizona, go."

Still, the "Don't Vote" ad (which was pulled off the air Tuesday by Univision) is bound to hit a nerve; many Latinos are angry that immigration reform has not materialized. What they need to remember is that it is being held up by the committed opposition of congressional Republicans, and that opposition is tethered to a measure of public sentiment. The country remains conflicted on the issue.

Now is the time for more political participation by supporters of immigration reform, not less. No one is urging "tea partyers" to stay at home on election day; Sarah Palin is crisscrossing the country to get out the conservative vote. President Obama is rallying Democratic support from coast to coast. Latino voters should use their ballots to set an agenda, not shrink from one.

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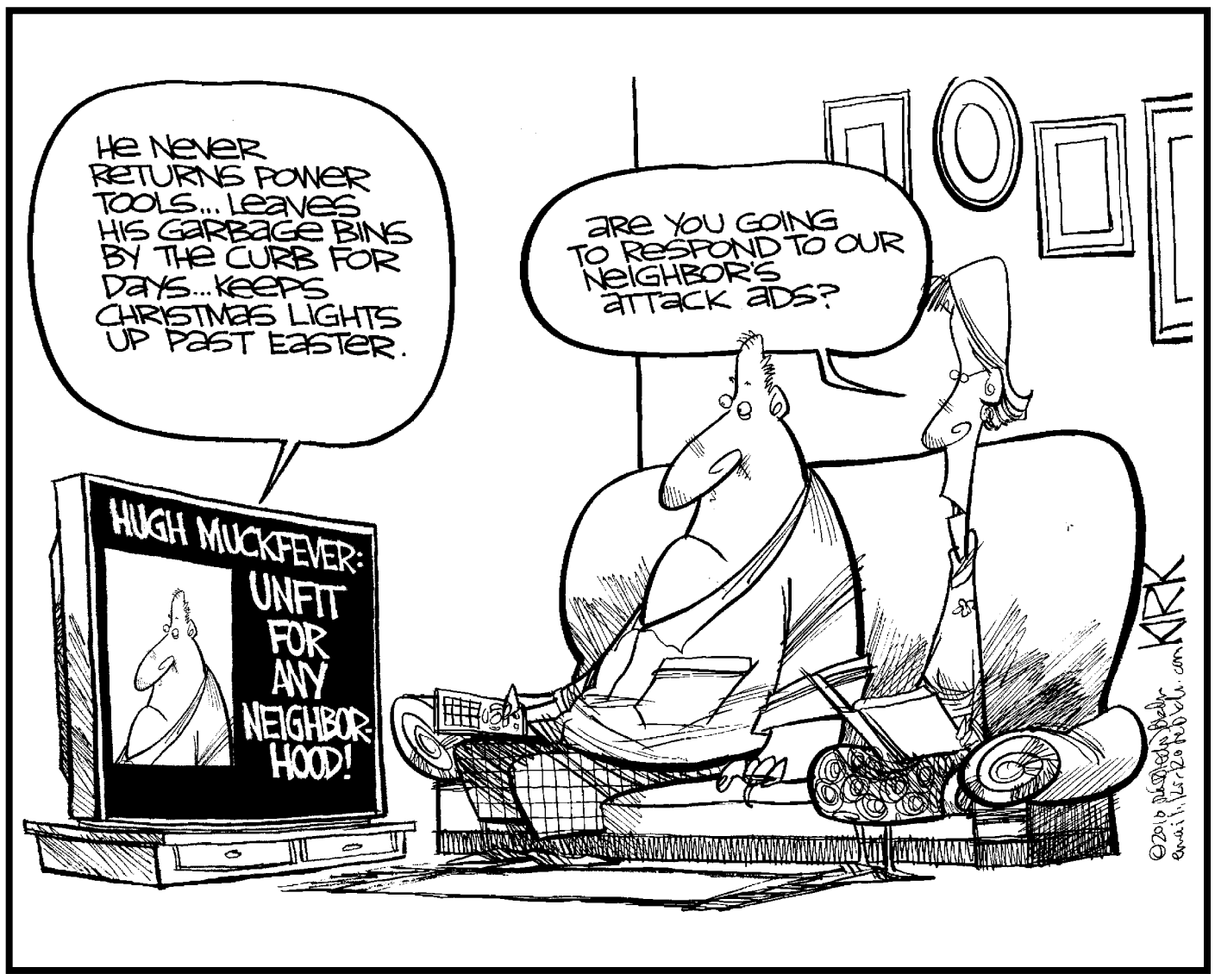
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are you going to respond to our neighbor's attack ads?

Turkey leans toward one of its two worlds

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

ANKARA, Turkey—In 2008, when I last visited this hilly capital city in the Anatolian heartland, I talked with top officials about their efforts to mediate between Israel and Syria.

What a difference two years make. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has warmly embraced Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and voted against Iran sanctions. And he's become a bitter critic of Israel after its 2009 invasion of Gaza and its raid last spring on a Turkish aid ship trying to break the Israeli blockade of Gaza; eight Turks and one Turkish-American were killed, shocking Turks of all political outlooks.

This shift has raised doubts in Washington about the political direction of this secular Muslim state that spans Europe and Asia. It has also spawned exaggerated claims that Erdogan has joined a Tehran-Damascus-Hamas axis. But Turkey is much more complicated than that.

I sat down with the frank and often emotional Erdogan at his political party's headquarters to probe his thoughts about Turkey's links with the East and the West.

Did he still feel it was important for Turkey to join the European Union? "For the last 50 years, Turkey was kept in front of the door of the European Union, the only country treated this way," Erdogan said. "It's an ugly approach. You should direct this question not to us, but to the 27 E.U. member countries and their leaders: Why are you keeping Turkey away?"

Feeling spurned by Europe, Erdogan is seeking closer relations with Muslim neighbors. Turkey's moves are also part of a push to develop new export markets and new sources of foreign direct investment, 80 percent of which still comes from Western Europe.

Turkey's economy is booming, with 7 percent growth. Ankara, which used to be a dumpy bureaucratic capital, is now an industrial center with smart shops and restaurants. Could Erdogan's country become an economic model for the Muslim world? I asked. "Why not?" he retorted with justifiable pride.

But economic pragmatism doesn't explain Erdogan's emotional response on the Israel issue. Turkey became the first Muslim country to recognize the Jewish state in 1950, and their breach changes the dynamic of the region.

Could ties with Jerusalem be restored? "As long as Israel does not apologize" or pay an indemnity to families of the victims, "we cannot easily re-establish our friendship," the prime minister said. "In the Middle East, the only friend Israel used to have was Turkey. With the last step, Israel has pushed itself to the corner to stand alone in the world."

Some of Erdogan's anger stems from a sense of betrayal: Israel attacked Gaza as he was on the verge of brokering new Israeli-Syrian talks, and it never informed him that the attack was coming. Erdogan was also incensed at the suffering of Gazan civilians during the invasion. "Israel bombed the U.N. compound in Gaza, they bombed hospitals, and no one tells them to stop."

But if the Turkish leader cares about human rights, how can he embrace Ahmadinejad, who smashes political opposition and calls for Israel to be wiped off the map? "Iran is our neighbor since 1639," he responded. "Ahmadinejad is a president, elected in his country." Erdogan said he had "conveyed to the honorable Ahmadinejad that I am not in favor of such (anti-Israel) statements. But Israel (says), 'We will bomb you.' Did anyone react?"

And the Turkish leader decries the U.S. veto of a U.N. Human Rights Council report condemning Israel for the flotilla raid. The United States and Europe were "enabling" Israel to act like "a spoiled child," he insisted. (Of course, the U.N. council usually fails to target the world's worst rights offenders.)

Yet Erdogan's blasting of Israel and warm embrace of Iran, while pleasing to the Arab street, convey an image at odds with the broader outlook of the country. Turkey is not Iran and still recognizes Israel. It is a NATO member that, as Erdogan pointed out, plays a key role in Afghanistan.

Two coming events will test Erdogan's intentions. Next month, NATO members will discuss whether to build a missile defense system aimed at countering Iran. Erdogan said that any attempt to specify which country the system will protect against "will never be accepted by us."

And early next year, another U.N. report on the flotilla raid, under the auspices of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, may offer a face-saving opportunity for Turkey and Israel to repair their split.

At that point, Erdogan will have to decide whether he wants to talk to all the regional players, even those he dislikes, or to hobnob mainly with Muslim leaders—whether he wants to be a bridge between continents and cultures, or prefers to choose one side.

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Exiles are keeping the faith

By MARIFELI PEREZ-STABLE
McClatchy Newspapers

Marifeli Perez-Stable (www.marifeliperez-stable.com) is senior non-resident fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, a professor at Florida International University and a columnist for the Miami Herald.

"Faith makes us live, but misery divides us," a Miami Haitian told Margarita Mooney, the author of "Faith Makes Us Live: Surviving and Thriving in the Haitian Diaspora."

For 16 months, Mooney lived among Haitian immigrants in Miami, Montreal and Paris, learned Creole and earned the trust of the 150 people she interviewed. Hope and affliction are the mark of being Haitian. No matter what life, nature or the powerful throw their way, Haitians never lose faith: God is good ("Bondye bon").

Her book paints a portrait of the Haitian diaspora with religion at the center. Why do Haitians leave their homeland? How has their faith helped them adapt to strange, often unwelcoming, lands? How do their leaders interact with government and civic institutions in their new localities?

Why Haitians leave is self-evident: abject poverty, predatory politics, a degraded physical environment and grasping elites leave them little room for a better future. Haitian Catholics—indeed, all Catholics but Haiti's blighted conditions infuse their faith with uncommon poignancy—take solace in the incarnation of God as man in Jesus, try to live by His teachings and put their trust in divine providence.

Hoping, praying and giving to others: That's how Haitians practice Catholicism. I'd add that all religions carry these simple precepts as their North Star. In any case, Mooney pulls us into the Haitian diaspora, drawing on sound sociology and the Haitians she interviewed.

Notre Dame d'Haiti is a thriving, 2,000-strong church community in Miami. Had not Thomas G. Wenski—in the 1980s, Notre Dame's parish priest, today Miami's archbishop—relentlessly stood up for the "refugees that nobody wanted," the archdiocese may not have been as quick to respond to the Haitians. But its responsiveness assured them a powerful institutional backer.

American society is often described as a "melting pot," albeit one in which immigrants assimilate while retaining distinct cultural traits. Notwithstanding their early travails and still high poverty rates, Haitians in Miami benefited from the prominent place of religion in our society. Separation of church and state has not at all diminished the religiosity of Americans.

Notre Dame became a Haitian moral community, with masses in Creole, youth groups, family activities and prayer groups. Later, the Pierre Toussaint Center provided services to support immigrant adaptation. Over the years the center has attracted millions in outside donations, most from government agencies, allowing it to expand its mission.

In the end, then, Haitians in Miami found cooperation fostered by the confluence of their faith, their own leaders, the archdiocese and government institutions. In Montreal and Paris, Haitians met less auspicious circumstances.

At first glance, Montreal may appear to be a friendlier host city than Miami. If only in part, Quebec and Haiti share language and culture. Beginning in the 1960s, however, Quebec moved in secular directions that sidelined Catholicism from its earlier prominence in culture, education and social services.

Canadian multiculturalism—understood as integration and cooperation among multiethnic organizations—frowned on government funding for single ethnic groups. Consequently the Montreal counterpart to the Toussaint Center struggles financially. Conflict marks Canada's Haitian diaspora, which still retains a strong Catholic and ethnic identity.

Living in different neighborhoods, Haitians have not formed a single tight-knit moral community. Mooney's interviewees often spoke of their loneliness. Their faith still sustains them, even if their churches are unable to mediate successfully with secular organizations and official institutions on their behalf.

In Miami and Montreal, Haitians are the largest community of black immigrants. Haitians in Paris are often mistaken for Africans who are the most numerous. Haitians tend to be "invisible." French culture, moreover, is more challenging to immigrant adaptation.

Republicanism—citizenship, that is, partaking in republican ideals—is the essence of French national identity. Immigrants can become citizens and their French-born children are granted citizenship at 18. The French government provides Haitians legal help on their status. By and large, it stands back from the social problems they face. In that sense too, Haitians are invisible.

Haitians in the three cities live by hoping, praying and giving service to others. The history and culture in the United States, Canada and France separate them. "Faith Makes Us Live" is well worth reading.

Hidden justice: Are the US Detainee Review Boards for suspected Afghan insurgents fair?

By RACHEL REID
Los Angeles Times

Rachel Reid is the Afghanistan analyst for Human Rights Watch. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

The first question was the obvious one. Why are you known as Mullah Tractor? "I read one or two Islamic books, so people call me Mullah. And then I bought a tractor. So I am Mullah Tractor."

Mullah Tractor wore an orange jumpsuit, signaling maximum security. He looked to be about 60 years old, with thin downturned lips, a contoured nose that might once have been broken and a short black-and-white beard.

His real name is Gul Shah Wazir, and he is in U.S. detention in Afghanistan, accused of being a member of the Taliban. But at the U.S. military hearing that I observed in late September, whether he is connected to the insurgency was hard to determine.

This was a Detainee Review Board, a type of hearing taking place in a new detention facility on the edge of Bagram airfield, north of Kabul. Though the site is physically much improved from the old Bagram prison, this is still a long way from a just process. For the hearings to be minimally fair, the detainees should be able to contest the evidence against them and have access to a lawyer. Instead, a detainee faces a three-member U.S. military panel, which tries to determine whether he is an insurgent and whether he would continue to pose a threat if released.

The evidence against Wazir was pretty hazy, judging by the questions from the panel. Did he know the notorious insurgent commander Sirajuddin Haqqani? Wazir said no. Perhaps the U.S. had intelligence leading it to believe that he did. If so, no one told Wazir.

He was asked numerous times about a madrasa, or religious school, he runs, but the questioners gave no indication why this might link him to the insurgency. He answered repeated questions about why his family had multiple properties and why he'd spent time in Dubai. No one suggested that the apparent wealth of the family might indicate terrorist activity, as opposed to running a lucrative farming business, with tractors. A lawyer representing Wazir might easily have poked holes in such lines of questioning.

But detainees have no lawyers. Instead, Wazir was given a "personal representative." Until last year, detainees had no assistance whatsoever, so this is an improvement. But only just. Personal representatives are supposed to speak on the detainee's behalf at the hearing. But why would a detainee trust a military officer when the person wears the same uniform as those who detained him—also the same uniform worn by the panel sitting in judgment of him.

Such doubts may be justified. Despite a recent rule requiring greater confidentiality between the detainee and his personal representative, what the detainee tells his representative could still be used against him in many circumstances. Trust issues aside, in the four reviews I observed, these representatives did not offer any persuasive advocacy on behalf of the detainees.

After less than an hour, Wazir was led out of the room so that the board could review any classified information. It's quite possible that there is some highly incriminating intelligence on Wazir. But because it's classified, Wazir probably will never know what keeps him behind bars, nor will he ever be able to challenge the evidence. He's waiting for the panel's decision. If he remains in U.S. detention, this process will be repeated once every six months, until he is released or transferred to Afghan custody.

U.S. military and intelligence services are clearly reluctant to reveal their sources and methods. But the culture of secrecy in Afghanistan borders on the absurd. As one U.S. official acknowledged to me, when the contents of a man's pockets can be classified secret, even from him, then something is wrong.

The Pentagon recently has tried hard to improve its detention policy in Afghanistan. It should take two more achievable steps. The first is to give detainees access to legal counsel, an internationally recognized right. The second is to decrease classification levels.

This process has already begun, driven by the desire of the United States to stop being a jailer in Afghanistan and to hand over detention to the Afghan government. To do this, it recognizes that it will have to start providing evidence that will stand up in Afghan courts and stop relying on intelligence kept behind closed doors.

These changes matter both on principle and on more pragmatic grounds. In the last six months, since the military surge, the number of Afghans detained by the U.S. has almost doubled, to more than 1,100. The majority will be transferred to Afghan custody or released with increasing speed.

That means hundreds of Afghans like Mullah Tractor will return to their communities. To avoid generating a large group of men harboring ill will, the U.S. should provide due process. That will require more lawyers, and less secrecy.

The cost of a global food chain

By ROBERT GOTTLIEB
Los Angeles Times

Robert Gottlieb's latest book, just released and co-authored with Anupama Joshi, is "Food Justice." *He is the director of the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.*

Check out the garlic the next time you're in the supermarket. In another era, it might well have been grown in Gilroy, Calif. But today, chances are that your garlic has traveled across oceans and continents to get to your kitchen.

Most garlic nowadays comes from China. Since 2003, the amount of garlic imported from China has nearly tripled, while the amount grown in California has dropped by nearly half. This means that instead of traveling several hundred miles to get to you, your garlic is probably traveling many thousands.

Moreover, the ships that carry the garlic from China use highly toxic bunker fuel that in turn is likely to have come from Venezuela. The big container ships take on the fuel in South America, then travel across the Pacific, where they or other ships pick up the garlic in China and then sail back across the ocean to the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. There, it is loaded on trains or trucks, which in turn create additional diesel pollution. The environmental impacts are global, and they are particularly concentrated in each of the destination points, whether in China or here, where ships, trains, trucks and warehouses are located.

So why have we shifted to purchasing Chinese garlic? Even with all the transportation costs, it's cheaper than garlic grown here.

But your savings in the supermarket undercuts farmers in places like Gilroy. Moreover, the Chinese garlic doesn't have the taste or texture of locally produced garlic. And it adds to our trade deficit, contributes to American unemployment and undermines our connection to the food we eat.

The increasing globalization of food commodities isn't just a concern in the United States. In China, PepsiCo—through its Frito-Lay division—has successfully introduced that quintessential American product, potato chips. It has done so, in part, by adhering to Chinese restrictions on what can be introduced into China. The Chinese won't allow crops produced elsewhere to be imported, so Frito-Lay now grows potatoes in China. "PepsiCo is not a farming company. But to build a market, we had to take extra steps like this," the operations director for PepsiCo's China venture told the *Wall Street Journal*.

With potato chip products like Frito-Lay's "green tea potato chips" joining other fast food products that now flood Chinese stores, the diets of people in China are changing dramatically. One result: Nearly a quarter of the population is overweight or obese, conditions that were virtually unheard of a generation ago. The Chinese are not as obese as we are yet, but they're on their way.

Food has become a global product. That has meant we can sip Chilean wine with our French cheese. And it has meant nothing is ever out of season: We can buy peaches in January and Brussels sprouts in August. But at what cost?

We hear a lot about the benefits of global trade, which has made the food we eat cheaper. But moving food thousands of miles from farm to market increases pollution, alters traditional diets and hurts local farmers. In Carson on Oct. 22-23, an international conference will explore some of the consequences of moving goods such huge distances (for more information, visit http://www.theimpactproject.org).

One thing, though, is abundantly clear: Food is intricately bound up with culture, and when we lose our connection to locally grown food, we also lose a piece of our culture. It's time to begin reconnecting with what we eat.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

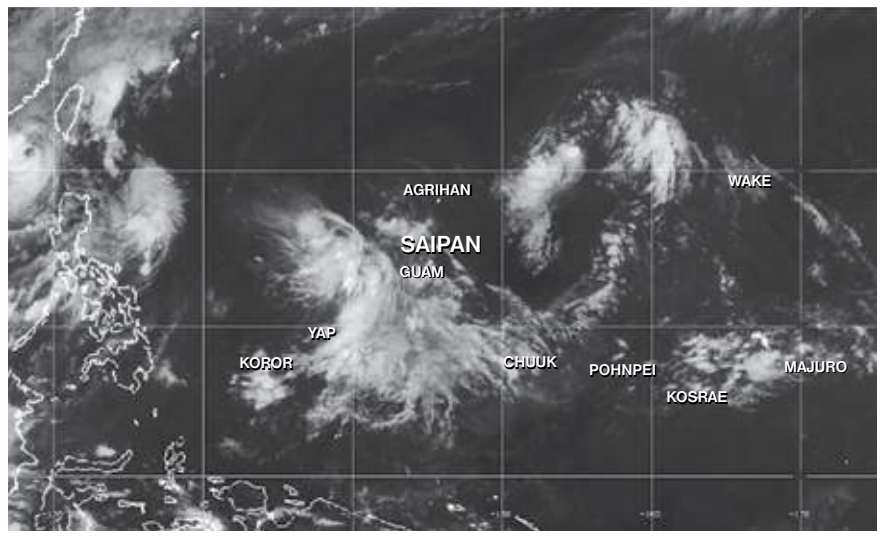
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼75
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼54
Beijing	Showers	▲60	▼38
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼67
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
London	Rain	▲53	▼45
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲66	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲65	▼45
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼75
New York	Sunny	▲64	▼52
Osaka	Showers	▲72	▼62
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼37
Pusan	Showers	▲72	▼64
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼54
Salem	Showers	▲59	▼53
San Francisco	Showers	▲59	▼58
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼54
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲70	▼59
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲72	▼56

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 16W is centered west of the Marianas near 17N139E. TD16W is moving westward at 11 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center of 16W within 150 miles of a line running from 17N137E to 13N140E and south of Koror within associated convergent winds between 5N and 7N from 133E to 135E and between Yap, Guam and Chuuk between 6N and 14N from 139E to 146E. For further information, refer to National Weather Service public advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. Tropical depression 17W is centered well east of the CNMI at 21N156E. TD17W is moving WNW at 6 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south and southeast of Minami Tori Shima between 18N and 22N from 151E to 155E and between 19N and 24N from 158E to 162E. A weak surface trough running from 5N162E to 10N170E is producing widely scattered to scattered showers between 6N and 9N from 162E to 169E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:37 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
8:06 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:08 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Monday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:48 PM	6:00 AM
Sunday	6:32 PM	6:52 AM
Monday	7:20 PM	7:46 AM
Tuesday	8:12 PM	8:41 AM
Wednesday	9:07 PM	9:37 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
CO9313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
CO9316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
CO9603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
CO9599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
CO9603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
CO9596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/CO596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
CO934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio

Sunday	
9am	Sunday school
10am	Regular worship
6pm	worship
Wednesday	
7pm	worship

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service
located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Business

Toyota recalling 1.5 million cars as woes go on

AP

The sign at San Francisco Toyota car dealership is shown in San Francisco, in this Jan. 26, 2010 file photo.

DETROIT (AP)—Just when Toyota thought its safety problems were over, they flare up all over again.

Less than a year after it was tarnished by reports of runaway cars, the automaker recalled 1.5 million vehicles Thursday to address brake-fluid and fuel-pump troubles, drawing new attention to safety issues that have festered inside the company for years.

The world's No. 1 carmaker said there were no accidents or injuries connected to the latest recall, which covers some Lexus and Toyota models from the 2004 to 2006 model years, mostly in the U.S. and Japan.

For Toyota, the latest recalls hurt the company's image just as it tries to clear up old problems, said Jean-Pierre Dube, a marketing professor at the University of Chicago.

Some previous braking and acceleration problems were blamed on driver error, he noted, but these problems were because of deterioration of parts.

"This is starting to look more like a chronic problem for them," he said. "It's hard to imagine this can't have some effect on how consumers are going to perceive the Toyota brand and to what extent it represents reliability."

Safety experts said it was an example of a new Toyota scrambling to clean up messes from its past. Toyota started getting reports of brake-fluid leaks in some of its models in February 2005, and it took more than five years to issue the recall.

Toyota has now recalled more than 11 million cars and trucks around the world over the past year for problems including faulty gas pedals, floor mats that can trap accelerators, braking problems and stalling engines.

Toyota took a hit on its once-impeccable reputation, not to mention its sales. This time around, it chose to recall rather than stonewall, said Clarence Ditlow, president of the Center for Auto Safety, a consumer group.

"The company is looking at all of these older defects and making a decision to do a recall, which they wouldn't have done in their pre-sudden-acceleration mentality," he said.

While insisting that it never swept safety issues under the rug, spokesman Brian Lyons said the company is reacting far more quickly than it had in the past.

"That is part of our commitment to the federal regulators and our customers," he said. The government said it had received three related complaints since 2004.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration hit Toyota with a $16.4 million fine earlier this year for failing to promptly tell the government about defects in its cars. The new recalls affect 740,000 cars in the U.S. and 599,000 in Japan. The rest are in Europe and elsewhere around the world. Honda Motor Co. also said it would recall an undetermined number of vehicles because of the same brake issue.

Since the safety problems hit the news last fall, Toyota's U.S. sales have lagged behind the rest of the industry despite numerous incentives to land customers.

For the first nine months of this year, Toyota sales were up 1.4 percent. Overall U.S. auto sales increased more than 10 percent.

Toyota spent more than $2,100 per car on incentives in September, up from about $1,500 a year ago—and at a time when the rest of the auto industry was spending less to woo customers.

Rebates and low-interest deals were unusual for Toyota in the past, but incentives were necessary to win back customers after the recalls, said Jesse Toprak, vice president of industry trends for Truecar.com.

"It's a process that's not going to be fixed overnight, but all they can do right now is damage control," he said.

Toprak added that Lexus' inclusion in the recall could hurt the company's ability to fend off Mercedes-Benz as the best-selling luxury brand in the United States this year. Lexus was behind Mercedes by about 3,000 vehicles through September.

Toyota's global profits were hurt by the recalls. The company earned an unusually low $1.2 billion from January to March. Its profits have since recovered, and it made $2.2 billion from April through June.

Nation

Major Northern Calif. mall ablaze after standoff

ROSEVILLE, Calif. (AP)—A high-end regional mall that is one of the main retail centers in a broad swath of Northern California was set ablaze Thursday after police arrested a man who had barricaded himself inside, dealing an economic blow to a region struggling to emerge from the recession.

City officials said part of the roof on the mall's south end collapsed as huge clouds of black smoke poured from the 1.3 million-square-foot Roseville Galleria, which is about 17 miles east of the state capital.

No injuries were reported, but damage to the mall's roof appeared extensive.

The mall was evacuated earlier in the day after a man barricaded himself inside a shop and started what appeared at first to be a small fire.

Authorities had thought the mall's sprinkler system doused the blaze. Before the larger blaze erupted, police had detained a suspect and were checking a backpack they found to see if it contained explosives.

Police later said the fire began spreading as members of the bomb squad were examining the backpack, forcing them to flee the building.

AP

Fire fighters pour water on to the roof of the Roseville Galleria after a man entered a store earlier in the day and set the shop on fire in Roseville, Calif., Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010

"We weren't able to get in there because there was a potential bomb there," Sacramento Metro spokesman Christian Pebbles said.

Roseville Fire Department spokesman Dennis Mathisen earlier said fire sprinklers seemed to be controlling the flames.

Police descended on the mall shortly after 10:30 a.m. when a man claiming to have a gun entered the video game store GameStop.

He started a fire, then barricaded himself in a back room, but there were no reports of hostages or injuries, said Megan MacPherson, spokeswoman for the city of Roseville. The mall was evacuated immediately.

She said the man is believed to have acted alone. Police did not know a motive, she said.

Police and sheriff's deputies, including a county SWAT team, detained the man inside the mall. Roseville police later identified him as 23-year-old Alexander Corney Pigee. They were unable to immediately say if he had a gun.

A Facebook page by someone of the same name says he lives in Sacramento and lists his hometown as Stockton.

Firefighting units were being called in from surrounding communities to help douse a blaze that could be seen for miles around the capital region.

"I have no idea how this fire erupted again," Roseville Police Lt. Mike Doane said.

The 240-store mall, operated by Westfield Corp., was built in 2000 and includes a Nordstrom and Macy's. It underwent a $270 million expansion that was completed in 2008, adding Louis Vuitton, Tiffany and Burberry and other high-end stores.

Westfield Group spokeswoman Katy Dickey said there are no estimates on the cost of the damage because the fire was still burning. Dickey said management personnel was on site.

"It's an active situation," she said. "The evacuation occurred very smoothly, and the suspect is in custody."

Fearing rout, Obama, Dems reach to female voters

SEATTLE (AP)—In a last-ditch effort to prevent electoral disaster, President Barack Obama and Democratic allies are vigorously wooing women voters, whose usually reliable support appears to have softened.

Obama

From blunt TV ads to friendlier backyard chats, they're straining to persuade women that it's the Democrats who are on their side and it's in women's vital interest to turn out and vote in the Nov. 2 elections that could give Republicans control of one or both houses of Congress.

In Seattle on Thursday, Obama told local women and others that "how well women do will help determine how well our families are doing as a whole." Accompanied by women who own businesses, he spoke in a family's backyard about the economy's effects on women and outlined ways he said his policies have helped them.

Later, trying to rekindle the enthusiasm of his presidential race, he all but ordered thousands of cheering supporters at a packed University of Washington arena to get out and vote, even though he's not on the ballot. Hoarsely shouting over the applause, he said, "If everybody that voted in 2008 shows up in 2010, we will win this election. We will win this election. But you've got to come out and vote."

Campaigning for one of the Democrats' female senators, Patty Murray, who is in a tight re-election fight, Obama attracted a bigger crowd than the 10,000 who could fit into the arena. The others moved to an overflow area set up in the university's football stadium, and the president ran through the stadium tunnel onto the field to greet them.

With the elections less than two weeks away and Democrats fearing big losses, candidates, party allies and others are joining Obama in seeking women's votes by hitting Republican opponents—in ads, mailings and speeches—on issues such as abortion rights. In every corner of the country, they are arguing that the GOP would erase progress American women have made under Democratic control of the White House and Congress.

The latest Associated Press-GfK poll underscores the Democrats' concern: Women long have leaned toward Democrats but, at a time of great economic unrest, those who are likely to vote now split fairly evenly between the two parties, 49 percent favoring Democrats, 45 percent Republicans. That's a significant drop from 2006 when Democrats had a double-digit edge. The current margin mirrors 1994, the year of a Republican wave that swept Congress.

Calif. man heads home after 2 years in Iran prison

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A California businessman who spent more than two years in an Iranian prison after being accused of passing money to a rebel group was returning home Thursday.

Reza Taghavi, 71, was due to arrive at Los Angeles International Airport at 8:30 p.m. with his attorney, former U.S. diplomat Pierre Prosper, who won Taghavi's release after talks with Iranian envoys.

Taghavi, an Orange County resident who regularly visits Iran to conduct business, was jailed on allegations that he passed $200 to someone suspected of links to a rebel group called Tondar. Tondar is suspected of a 2008 mosque bombing that killed 14 people in the southern city of Shiraz. Taghavi was never charged and denies knowingly supporting the faction. He was freed Saturday after 29 months in prison and had to meet with survivors of the bombing as a condition of his release.

He told AP Television News in Iran that he was given the money by an acquaintance in the United States. He said his friend took advantage of his trust and that he plans to sue him.

His daughter, Leila Taghavi, said earlier this year that her father is kind and giving, and his impulse to help people got him into trouble.

Taghavi

Taghavi's release comes as Iran is under international sanctions over its nuclear program. The U.S. and allies believe Iran could use its nuclear labs to eventually produce weapons-grade material, while Iran claims it only wants reactors to produce energy.

Prosper has said American officials were excluded from five rounds of negotiations over Taghavi to avoid having his client become a bargaining chip.

Taghavi's lengthy imprisonment was much less known than the case of three American hikers who were detained along Iran's border with Iraq last year and accused of spying. One member of the trio, Sarah Shourd, was recently released on $500,000 and returned to the U.S. Her companions, Josh Fattal and Shane Bauer, remain jailed in Iran and could face trial on espionage charges.

ACROSS THE NATION

Cops: Woman drove around with body for months

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP)—A California woman who befriended a homeless woman and let her sleep in her car told police she didn't know where to turn when the woman unexpectedly died—so she drove the body around for months along with a box of baking soda to hide the smell, authorities said Thursday. Officers with the Costa Mesa police found the unidentified body Monday after getting a call about a car partially blocking a driveway, Sgt. Ed Everett told The Associated Press. When officers arrived, they noticed a stench and saw a leg poking out from a blanket and some clothes, he said. The partially mummified remains consisted of mostly skin and bones and weighed about 30 pounds, he said.

Witness: NY police overreacted in student shooting

VALHALLA, N.Y. (AP)—A college student who was at the scene when a schoolmate was shot to death by police said Thursday that the killing was "over the top, aggressive and unnecessary," joining a chorus of witnesses who say police mishandled the situation. "None of it made sense to me," said Robert Coulombe, a Pace University senior. Danroy "D.J." Henry, of Easton, Mass., was killed early Sunday after police were called to a disturbance that spilled out of a Thornwood, N.Y., bar. Police have said that Henry, a 20-year-old Pace football player, sped away and hit two officers after a policeman knocked on his car window. His family's attorney said Wednesday that witnesses contradicted that account and said paramedics ignored Henry, handcuffed and dying, to attend to injured officers.

Denver-area pot grower agrees to 5 years in prison

DENVER (AP)—A suburban Denver pot grower who tried unsuccessfully to set up a federal-state showdown on medical marijuana agreed to a five-year prison term Thursday and was handcuffed in court after pleading guilty on federal drug charges. Christopher Bartkowicz, 37, pleaded guilty to three drug charges, including cultivation, after federal drug agents raided his Highlands Ranch home in February and seized hundreds of pot plants growing in his basement. The raid by the Drug Enforcement Administration came after a Denver TV station promoted a story in which Bartkowicz bragged about how much money he would make growing pot under Colorado medical marijuana rules.

Asia

US halts aid to some Pakistan military units

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration is withholding assistance to some Pakistani military units over concerns they may have been involved in human rights abuses, including extrajudicial killings and torture, a senior U.S. official said Thursday.

The official said aid to a handful of Pakistani units believed to have committed, encouraged or tolerated abuses had been suspended under 1997 legislation championed by Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt. The so-called Leahy Amendment bars U.S. military assistance from going to foreign armed forces suspected of committing atrocities.

"In accordance with the Leahy Amendment, we have withheld assistance from a small number of units linked to gross human rights violations," the official said. "At the same time, we have encouraged Pakistan to improve its human rights training, and it is taking steps in that direction."

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

It was not immediately clear when the decision to withhold the assistance was first taken or exactly how many Pakistani military units were affected. The New York Times first reported the withholding of aid late Thursday.

Halting assistance to certain units will not affect broader U.S. support for Pakistan's military, which is considered key to counterterrorism efforts in the region.

The U.S. is expected on Friday to announce a new military aid package for Pakistan worth about $2 billion over the next five years as it presses the country to do more to fight extremists there and in neighboring Afghanistan.

That announcement is planned at the end of three days of high-level strategic talks in Washington between top U.S. and Pakistani officials, including Pakistani army chief Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. Kayani has pledged to improve the Pakistani military's human rights record in numerous discussions with U.S. officials.

"As General Kayani has said repeatedly in public and in private, professional standards and enforcement of those standards are the hallmark of a modern and successful military," White House spokesman Tommy Vietor said in a statement. "These issues are part of our conversations with all militaries around the world with whom we work."

China lashes out at Japan over reported insult

BEIJING (AP)—A senior Chinese official lashed out at Japan's foreign minister for a reported insult Thursday, saying a planned meeting between leaders of the two countries intended to smooth over recent tensions was uncertain.

China broke off ministerial-level contacts with Japan after Tokyo detained a Chinese fishing boat captain whose trawler collided with two Japanese patrol boats near disputed islands. Japan eventually released the captain and said this week that the two sides were trying to set up formal talks between their leaders on the sidelines of a regional summit next week.

But Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Hu Zhengyue called that meeting into question Thursday, saying any talks would require "appropriate conditions and atmosphere" and that Tokyo didn't seem ready.

Japanese media have quoted Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara as saying that Beijing's reaction to the territorial dispute was "hysterical." Hu characterized the comments as "provocative" and an attack on China.

Relations between the two nations have been strained since the collision near the islands in the East China Sea called Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China.

Tensions subsided after Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan held an impromptu meeting during an Asia-Europe summit. But in recent days, sometimes violent rallies in several Chinese cities protesting Tokyo's claim to the islands have threatened to reopen hostilities.

ASIAN BRIEFS

SKorea denies NKorea is preparing nuclear test

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean officials said Thursday that there have been continual movements of personnel and vehicles at North Korea's main nuclear test site, but ruled out the possibility that the country is preparing its third atomic bomb test anytime soon. The assessment came shortly after the mass-circulation Chosun Ilbo newspaper reported Thursday that Pyongyang may be preparing another nuclear test, citing "brisk" activities at its atomic test site in the northeastern county of Kilju. The paper, citing an unidentified South Korean government source, said a U.S. spy satellite detected such activities and that North Korea could detonate a nuclear device in three months.

Typhoon Megi triggers rockslides in Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Officials say Typhoon Megi has brought heavy rains to northeastern Taiwan, triggering massive rockslides on a coastal highway that have trapped as many as 400 travelers. The Defense Ministry says soldiers are trying to remove the rocks to get to the trapped travelers on the highway in Ilan County, about 90 miles (150 kilometers) southeast of the capital, Taipei. It said Friday that none of the people, including 235 tourists from China, are injured. The Central Weather Bureau says Megi dumped a record high 40 inches (1,000 millimeters) of rain in Ilan on Thursday.

Blast injures American student in central Beijing

BEIJING (AP)—China's state news agency says a 30-year-old American has been injured in an explosion near a subway station in central Beijing. Xinhua News Agency said the blast went off Thursday near a newspaper stand as the American, who is studying in China, was passing by. The American was slightly injured in the leg and taken to hospital. Beijing police are investigating the cause of the explosion. Xinhua did not say whether the injured person was a man or woman.

Bodies, mass graves found on Iwo Jima

TOKYO (AP)—Two mass graves that may hold the remains of up to 2,000 Japanese soldiers have been discovered on the island of Iwo Jima, one of the bloodiest and most iconic battlesites of World War II, a report and officials said Friday. A team of Japanese searchers has discovered 51 remains in two areas listed by the U.S. military after the war as enemy cemeteries, one of which could contain as many as 2,000 bodies, Japan's Kyodo news agency said Friday. The team was to report its findings later Friday to the prime minister's office.

World

At least 135 perish from disease outbreak in Haiti

ST. MARC, Haiti (AP)—An outbreak of severe diarrhea has killed at least 135 people in rural central Haiti and sickened hundreds more who overwhelmed a crowded hospital Thursday seeking treatment. Health workers suspected the disease is cholera, but were awaiting tests.

Hundreds of patients lay on blankets in a parking lot outside St. Nicholas hospital in the port city of St. Marc with IVs in their arms for rehydration. As rain began to fall in the afternoon, nurses rushed to carry them inside.

AP

People receive serum at the St. Nicholas hospital in Saint Marc, Haiti, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010.

Doctors were testing for cholera, typhoid and other illnesses in the Caribbean nation's deadliest outbreak since a January earthquake that killed as many as 300,000 people.

Catherine Huck, deputy country director for the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, said the Caribbean nation's health ministry had recorded 135 deaths and more than 1,000 infected people.

"What we know is that people have diarrhea, and they are vomiting, and (they) can go quickly if they are not seen in time," Huck said. She said doctors were still awaiting lab results to pinpoint the disease.

The president of the Haitian Medical Association, Claude Surena, said the cause appeared to be cholera, but added that had not been confirmed by the government.

"The concern is that it could go from one place to another place, and it could affect more people or move from one region to another one," he said.

Cholera is a waterborne bacterial infection spread through contaminated water. It causes severe diarrhea and vomiting that can lead to dehydration and death within hours. Treatment involves administering a salt and sugar-based rehydration serum.

Clashes, protests in French tensions over pensions

PARIS (AP)—Police used tear gas and water cannon against rampaging youth in Lyon on Thursday while the French government showed its muscle in parliament, short-circuiting tense Senate debate on a bill raising the retirement age to 62.

Despite growing pressure, President Nicolas Sarkozy held firm on a measure he says is crucial to the future of France, heightening the standoff with labor unions that see retirement at 60 as a hard-earned right.

Defiant unions announced two more days of protest, one on Nov. 6—long after the bill is likely to become law. The bold action suggested that opponents believe they have the power to force the government's hand.

"The government bears full and complete responsibility for the continued mobilization, given its intransigent attitude, its failure to listen and its repeated provocations," said the statement signed by six unions.

Weeks of protests have left at least a quarter of the nation's gas stations on empty, blocked hundreds of ships at the Mediterranean port of Marseille and even forced Lady Gaga to cancel Paris concerts.

Violence on the margins of student protests have added a new dimension to the volatile mix.

A march in Paris by at least 4,000 students was peaceful, but new violence broke out in Lyon, where police used water cannon and tear gas to hold back rampaging youths hurling bottles and overturning at least one car.

"It is not troublemakers who will have the last word in a democracy," Sarkozy told local officials in central France, promising to find and punish rioters. He accused strikers of "taking the economy, businesses, daily life hostage."

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexico arrests man accused of detonating car bomb

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Federal police announced Thursday that they arrested a gang member who detonated the first successful car bomb by Mexican drug cartels, an attack that killed three people in the border city of Ciudad Juarez. Fernando Contreras used a cell phone to set off the bomb that killed a federal police officer and two civilians June 15, said Luis Cardenas Palomino, the regional federal police chief. The bomb exploded after police and paramedics arrived on a street corner to help a wounded man, adding a new dimension of terror in Ciudad Juarez, which has become one of the world's deadliest cities amid a turf war between the Sinaloa and Juarez drug cartels.

Iraqi leaders not following US advice on gov't

BAGHDAD (AP)—American influence has so dwindled in Iraq over the last several months that Iraqi lawmakers and political leaders say they no longer follow Washington's advice for forming a government. Instead, Iraqis are turning to neighboring nations, and especially Iran, for guidance—casting doubt on the future of the American role in this strategic country after a grinding war that killed more than 4,400 U.S. soldiers. "The Iraqi politicians are not responding to the U.S. like before. We don't pay great attention to them," Shiite lawmaker Sami al-Askari, a close ally of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, said Thursday. "The weak American role has given the region's countries a greater sense of influence on Iraqi affairs." Vice President Joe Biden, the administration's point man for Iraq, has doggedly lobbied Iraqi leaders, both on the phone and in six trips here over the past two years.

Maharlika
PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS
Saturday, October 23, 2010

Cotabato blast kills 10

» Police say explosive detonated by cell phone

By INQUIRER MINDANAO

MATALAM, North Cotabato—The force of the blast was so powerful it decapitated two passengers on the bus.

A bomb detonated by cell phone ripped through a de luxe passenger bus of Rural Transit Inc. Thursday, killing 10 people and wounding at least 30 others in an attack military authorities blamed on an extortion gang.

Students were among the dead.

The bombing occurred an hour after a bomb scare swept through the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) in Makati City, disrupting trading for a few hours.

There was nothing to indicate the two incidents were related, officials said.

The bus was traveling with more than 50 passengers when the explosion shook the rear part of the vehicle from the overhead compartment, according to the Central Mindanao regional police director, Chief Supt. Gil Meneses.

Chief Supt. Felicisimo Khu, chief of the Directorate for Integrated Police Operations for Western Mindanao, said the IED (improvised explosive device) that went off was fashioned from a mortar cartridge and triggered by a mobile phone.

This appeared to dispute the military claim that Thursday's explosion could have been the work of extortionists, Khu said.

"The bus management told us they have not received any extortion threat from any group operating in Mindanao," he said.

Al-Khobar

Al-Khobar is the most notorious of the region's extortion gangs, and authorities say it is made up of criminals and former Muslim rebels who have been blamed for attacking business establishments that refused to pay their ransom demands, according to The Associated Press. The group is on a US list of terrorist organizations.

Troops last year captured a suspected Al-Khobar leader, Mokasid Dilna, who allegedly trained with militants in Afghanistan and Pakistan in the 1990s.

Military officials said Dilna provided refuge to foreign militants and acted as a link with two local Muslim groups—the violent Abu Sayyaf and the larger Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which has been engaged in peace talks with the government.

AP

Rescuers pull out the body of one of the victims from a bus passenger, after an explosion Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010 in Matalam town in southern Philippines. A bomb ripped through the passenger bus killing at least eight people and wounding 10 in an attack authorities blamed on an extortion gang with links to Muslim militants.

Bus driver Arlan Tadeo said he was driving along a tree-lined road on a highway in the village of Dalapitan here when the explosion occurred at about 10:45 a.m.

"I clung to the wheel and managed to maneuver the bus safely to the edge (of the road)," he said.

Tadeo was unhurt but the scene at the back of the bus horrified him, especially when he saw that the head of one of the men in the back of the vehicle had been blown off.

"The sight was harrowing," Tadeo said. "His head was gone instantly after the loud explosion."

Screams for help

Tadeo said he parked the bus by the roadside and looked in the mirror to see headless bodies and passengers raising their bloody arms as they screamed for help.

He said police and military forces arrived in about 10 minutes and organized local residents to help take the victims to hospitals.

The bomb went off on a highway just outside Matalam town in a lightly populated farming area, largely planted with sugar cane.

The conductor, Bryan Galagas, 29, was at the tail-end of the vehicle handing out tickets when the blast occurred. He was among those killed, police said.

Homemade bomb

Senior Supt. Cornelio Salinas, the police chief of North Cotabato, confirmed two of those killed were decapitated. He said he saw two headless bodies on the bus.

"We saw it when we accompanied the Scene of the Crime Operatives team inside the bus," Salinas told the Inquirer by phone.

Officials said the blast came from a powerful improvised explosive device (IED) which went off while the bus was traveling along the national highway.

Senior Insp. Joyce Birrey, the spokesperson of the North Cotabato Police Command, identified the two men who were decapitated as Mark Lester Feri and Romil Española.

Feri and Española were third year students at the University of Southern Mindanao (USM), police said.

Lions District office to charter clubs on Rota, Tinian

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Lions Club International District 204 plans to create a Lions Club on the islands of Rota and Tinian.

Region secretary Paul Madriaga said district governor Romeo Angel of the Guam Spirit Lions Club visited Rota last August.

Madriaga said their group continues to coordinate with Rota Parish priest Fr. Delfin Tumaca and Rota first lady Estrella Mendiola in making arrangements for a Lions Club on Rota.

Madriaga also said Lions Club District officers plan to visit Tinian to conduct an orientation next month for individuals who are interested in becoming Lions Club members.

The Tinian visit is slated for Nov. 14, a day after the medical mission on Saipan coordinated by the Lions Club Regions 1 and 2.

Madriaga said they are working with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and Bank of Guam Tinian Branch manager Jackie Mendiola in setting up the Tinian Lions Club.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Saipan Lions Club pose for a group photo after the Lions Club District Induction at the Marriott Hotel in Guam last Sept. 18.

The region secretary disclosed that the Saipan Lions Clubs are also trying to revive the Saipan Friendship Lions Club which dissolved about 10 years ago.

Madriaga said they have been meeting with former officers and members of the organization such as Josie Fitial, wife of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and past president Nenette Delos Santos.

He urged all former Saipan Friendship Lions Club members to support the medical mission on Nov. 13 and once again become part of the "We Serve" community.

For information, contact Madriaga at 287-4501; vice district governor Pastor Gagaring at 287-7478; or zone chairman Joe Digno at 287-4754.

$3.6K needed to repatriate body of Pinoy guest worker

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An amount of $3,600 is needed to repatriate the body of Filipino guest worker Camilo Laoeng who passed away last Oct. 9.

Friends of the Mariana Islands president Marites Castillo is asking the support of the Filipino community in sending Laoeng's body which lies at the Commonwealth Health Center morgue.

Laoeng worked as a building maintenance staff for Matson Consulting. His contract with the company expired in March.

Castillo said Laoeng died of cardiac arrest while performing his part-time job installing a gravestone at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Castillo told *Saipan Tribune* that she was authorized by Laoeng's Florida-based daughter Wilma Stroh and son-in-law Michael Stroh to make the necessary arrangements for Laoeng's repatriation.

According to Castillo, another group comprised of Laoeng's girlfriend Melycia Marquez has also been soliciting donations since his death.

She said the group has collected some $1,800 in donations.

Castillo is making her appeal to Marquez for them to work together by utilizing the money to pay for the downpayment for the funeral parlor.

Castillo said the money she will collect from donations as well as the money that will be sent by Stroh will be used to pay the balance for the funeral parlor.

Contact Castillo at 285-8980 to make a donation for the repatriation of Laoeng's body.

Watch out, Ping; Leila mad

By NIKKO DIZON
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Maybe it will take a woman whose patience is running thin to get him.

The tough-talking Justice Secretary Leila de Lima Thursday said she was now going to take a direct hand in the search for Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson, who has been missing for more than nine months since he was charged with murder for the killing of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and Dacer's driver, Emmanuel Corbito.

President's priorities

Asked about the authorities' failure to capture Lacson, President Benigno Aquino III, on a visit to Isabela, told reporters: "(Arresting Lacson) is also a priority of the government but if I were to tell you that is the first priority, that is not correct. My priority [since last week] is to prepare for this typhoon."

De Lima

Lacson

"There are 673,000 affected residents in Isabela alone. Eight hundred thousand in the whole of (Cagayan Valley). Shall I drop my concentration here and attend to Senator Lacson?" he said.

Lacson has been variously reported to be hiding in the United States, Rome, Australia or "somewhere in Asia," particularly Hong Kong, China or Taiwan. A recent speculation is that he may have returned to the Philippines.

"I'll be hands-on from now on in these efforts to track down Senator Lacson. Before, I would just be asking for updates from the NBI (National Bureau of Investigation). Now I decided to be hands-on," De Lima said at a press conference.

"There is a warrant of arrest that should be respected, implemented, because it's not good for our justice system that warrants of arrest are not seriously regarded," she added.

Asked what prompted her to be more involved in the search for Lacson, De Lima said: "It's more because there has been a substantial passage of time and without [the implementation of the] warrant of arrest, it shows helplessness and even inefficiency in enforcement."

Reward money?

On Tuesday, De Lima admitted that the authorities' inability to locate Lacson left her "very embarrassed."

Lacson, a former Philippine National Police chief, quietly left the country in January after a Manila judge issued a warrant for his arrest in connection with the November 2000 double murder.

Lacson claimed his inclusion in the case was part of the previous administration's persecution of him for his several exposés against then President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her husband.

De Lima will hold a joint meeting on Friday with the NBI and the PNP-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group to discuss how the government could step up its manhunt, including possibly offering reward money to informants.

No special treatment

Is the government willing to offer anything to Lacson for his surrender?

De Lima said this had not been discussed and she had not received any instructions from President Aquino.

Is a no-handcuffs deal possible?

"It's difficult to agree to a request like that because it's tantamount to special treatment," she said.

How about a house arrest or Senate custody for Lacson?

"That would be subject to the discretion of the court," she said.

Gatdula 'doing his job'

De Lima assuaged concerns that Lacson's reported closeness to Mr. Aquino may be an impediment to his arrest, saying the President had only asked for her opinion on a defense request for a reinvestigation of the case. "I gave my advice to him," she said.

De Lima defended NBI Director Magtanggol Gatdula from accusations that being a close aide to Lacson had made the bureau drag its foot on the manhunt.

"I believe at this point there is no showing or indication that he will be less than efficient in discharging the duty to track him down," De Lima said.

"The way I see it, he's doing his job and I just need to closely monitor and be involved also in the operations."

De Lima said all NBI regional offices had been alerted about the arrest warrant for Lacson but that the agency had always been undermanned.

Back in RP?

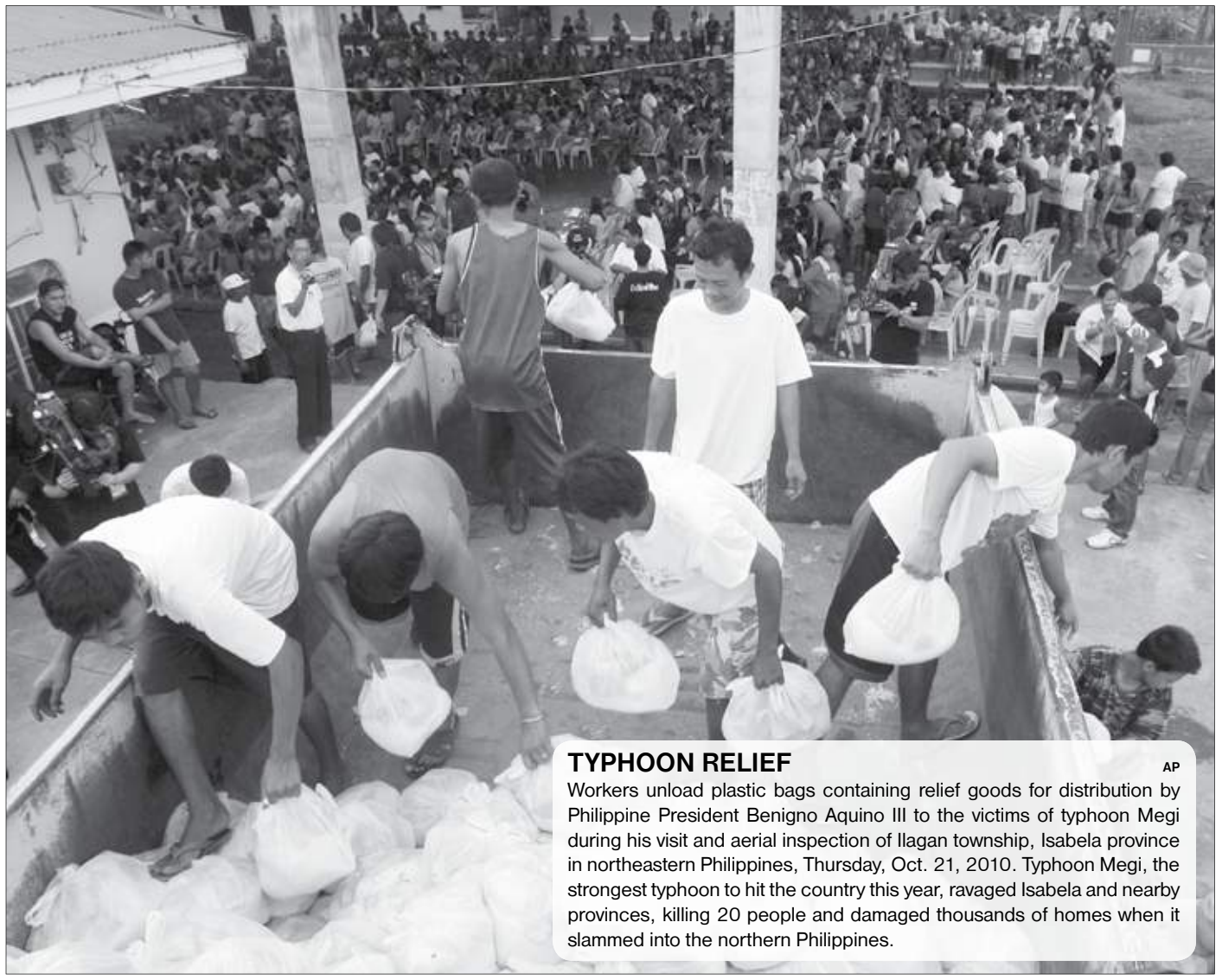
De Lima raised the possibility that Lacson may still be in the country because despite the cancellation of his passport and alerts to the Interpol and embassies, he still could not be found.

But she said that while it was possible that Lacson was in the Philippines, he could also be abroad—in a place with "liberal immigration laws, the so-called haven for fugitives of justice."

De Lima warned those who could be coddling Lacson in the country would face charges.

"It's almost unthinkable that he's able to evade arrest without any aid from any party, individual, group, allies, supporters, associates ... unless he is really very good at hiding," she said.

With reports from Norman Bordadora and Inquirer Research



TYPHOON RELIEF AP

Workers unload plastic bags containing relief goods for distribution by Philippine President Benigno Aquino III to the victims of typhoon Megi during his visit and aerial inspection of Ilagan township, Isabela province in northeastern Philippines, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010. Typhoon Megi, the strongest typhoon to hit the country this year, ravaged Isabela and nearby provinces, killing 20 people and damaged thousands of homes when it slammed into the northern Philippines.

After WB, IMF raises growth forecast for RP economy

By MICHELLE REMO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The International Monetary Fund has upgraded its 2010-2011 growth projections for the Philippines, citing robust consumption by Filipino households and a rare increase in investments by businesses.

In its latest outlook on Asian economies, the IMF said the Philippines has so far outperformed earlier expectations, thanks in part to improved global economic conditions and to stimulus policies of the government.

The IMF now expects the Philippine economy to grow 7 percent this year, faster than the forecast of 3.6 percent it made in April and the 3.2 percent announced at the start of the year.

Earlier, the World Bank raised its growth forecast for the Philippine economy for this year from its previous estimate of 4.4 percent to 6.2 percent, citing growth in demand from the external and domestic fronts that was higher than initially anticipated.

For 2011, the IMF sees the domestic economy expanding by 4.5 percent, up from the previous estimate of 4 percent.

"In the Philippines, above-trend growth in 2010 reflects a recovery in exports, strong consumption supported by robust remittance inflows, and a pickup in investment. In 2011, as the recovery matures, growth is expected to return to trend," the IMF said.

Remittances have continued to rise this year, raising the purchasing capacity of at least 10 percent of Filipino households. The increase was attributed largely to better economic conditions offshore that helped boost demand for Filipino labor.

The modest recovery of the United States and other industrialized countries from the recession last year also lifted exports of the Philippines, the IMF noted.

The increase in the IMF's growth projection for the Philippines was consistent with its higher growth estimates for the region.

The IMF said Asia was expected to post an average growth of 8 percent this year and 7 percent in 2011. These figures were about a percentage point higher than the fund's earlier forecasts.

In the report, the IMF said that Asian economies have demonstrated a firm recovery from last year's downturn. What should be done next by these economies is to implement policies that will keep them to post respectable growth rates over the medium to long term.

The IMF said the Philippines and other Asian economies must focus on promoting the interest of small and medium enterprises, mainly by improving their access to credit, and pursue infrastructure development.

The IMF said a lesson for Asia, which was deemed heavily reliant on the West for their export earnings, was to strengthen local demand to insulate it from economic downturns in the industrialized countries.

"It is time also to look ahead to the medium term, when Asia will have to rely increasingly on domestic demand for its growth. A strong package of measures taken across the region to foster this medium-term reorientation will help Asia to sustain its robust growth," the IMF said.

The Philippines escaped a recession last year, managing to grow 1.1 percent. This was a marked slowdown from 3.8 percent in 2008 and 7.2 percent in 2007.

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MARKETINGRX

Mang Inasal's P3B success secret

By NED ROBERTO,
ARDY ROBERTO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—How does one go from one restaurant in his neighborhood mall to selling 70 percent of his company for P3 billion in seven years, selling Ilonggo-style native grilled chicken?

Two weeks ago, we talked about the finalists of the 2010 *Entrepreneur Magazine* Entrep10 Awards program. But the entrepreneur whose name was splashed all over the business headlines over the past few days is Edgar Injap Sia III, the founder of the ubiquitous Mang Inasal.

The Jr MarketingRx was one of the judges in the 2009 *Entrepreneur Magazine* Top 10 Awards that gave four thumbs up (including the "thumbs" of my feet) to Sia III during the judging process.

Mang Inasal's success would make any entrepreneur green with envy:

- from one store in Robinson's mall in Iloilo in 2003 to 303 stores as of today
- P3.8 billion in sales a year
- sold 70 percent of his Mang Inasal's holding company (Injap Investments Inc.) for P3 billion to Jollibee Foods Corp.

He will be paid a P200 million deposit and 90 percent within 30 days of closing of the deal; the rest will be paid over the next three years.

- Sia is only a little over 30 years old!

According to the data and articles that *Entrepreneur Magazine* gave us judges (we were trying to get a hold of Edgar, our fellow GoNegosyo Angelpreneur and a recent Most Inspiring Young Entrepreneur of Year Awardee, for his comments) here are the five secrets, yes, I know, five again, to his P3 billion success:

1.) Ready, fire, aim!

Sia was presented with an opportunity when a slot at the Robinson's mall in Ioilo became vacant. He reserved the space without knowing what to put up. His gut just told him that there was an opportunity since he saw potential in the space. After a few short weeks, he came up with the concept of a Chicken Inasal fastfood store. The first fastfood, value-for-money type of Inasal restaurant.

His approach to expanding to Metro Manila and Luzon was the same: "I was not very familiar with Manila, because I was born and raised in the Visayas. I only visited once a year, and it was usually for very short stays. So I knew I was in for quite a challenge taking Mang Inasal to Luzon," Sia said.

2.) Work your butt off!

Sia worked his butt off day and night. He wasn't afraid of getting his hands literally dirty. He was known to work long hours and help mop and clean up the first store. Then he would come home and help prepare and marinate chicken for the next day. He realized it was going to be lots of work, but he didn't give up. His work ethic and attitude brought him through lots of disappointments and trials.

3.) Think innovation.

Simple innovation pays dividends. Just don't copy, copy and add something of value. Sia entered the Inasal scene late. But he simply did the "positioning" game of Al Ries and Jack Trout and scored a slam dunk. Mang Inasal was the FIRST Chicken Inasal restaurant that offered quick service with unlimited rice. For P49, a student or office worker can have a filling tasty, grilled chicken meal.

4.) Think BIG!

Sia started getting franchise inquiries fast, but held off for two years before offering the first franchise. He did the right thing by networking and getting help from the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA) and coming up with a franchise opportunity that was affordable.

For a start-up franchise fee of about P800,000, you can have your own Mang Inasal franchise. (Total investment is about P3 million to P4 million). After his first franchise offer in 2005, there are now over 300 branches/franchisees.

5.) Think marketing.

The marketing message of Mang Inasal remains simple and focused. All you see is a picture of a tasty-looking piece of grilled chicken, the name Mang Inasal, (sometimes you see the price: P49) and a bold tagline: "Unlimited Rice!"

Given the success of the business, the young Sia, aka Mr. Mang Inasal, will surely inspire many entrepreneurs and marketers for years to come.

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR MONEY

Top 10 money advice (to turn your situation around)

INQUIRER.net

Take Charge of Your Money, an editorial partnership between Citibank and www.inquirer.net, has been giving out personal finance advice in this space since September 5, 2006. Readers have sent their questions about saving, investment, debt, financial goals, and financial security. On our 180th column, we looked back on the past three and a half years and chose our top 10 money advice-our gift to you our readers. Here's to a bright financially secure future!

1. Find out how much you are worth. Go ahead, put a price tag on yourself and find out just how much you are worth today. Add up all your assets (cash, bank deposits, liquid investments, house, car, jewelry, and others), deduct all your liabilities (bills due, loan amount, credit card debt, long-term loan), and you will get your net worth. A positive net worth shows you are on the right track, while a negative one will serve as a wake-up call for more financial discipline. This 'snapshot' of your financial standing will also clue you in should you need to move your investment around or stop racking up new debt.

2. Save smarter, not just harder. It's important to save for the future-when unexpected emergencies arise, there will be a fund to dip into. It's also good to save so you can reach your financial goals, whether those include buying your own home, giving your children a good education up to college, or preparing for retirement. But it's not enough to just save money and deposit it in a savings account, which will earn you a small amount of interest. Other investments may possibly give you a higher rate of return. Putting all your cash in a savings account will also allow inflation to erode the purchasing power of your cash. Go for investments that potentially offer rates of return higher than the prevailing inflation rate.

3. Plan for your future needs. Whether it's for your dream wedding, children's college tuition, your car's annual comprehensive motor insurance, your summer vacation next year, or your Christmas gift budget for this year, plan ahead. Find out how much this would cost, then aim to save for that amount monthly beginning today.

4. Make a budget. It can be discouraging to find out toward the end of the month that you are running low on cash-again. To banish this problem forever, discipline yourself into making a budget. Write down your projected income, deduct your must-pay bills (including savings), then apportion the rest into expenses you can control (such as food,

groceries, going out, etc.). These amounts will be your spending limit. Try not to go over your spending limit or else you will find yourself in debt.

5. Take only as much debt as you can afford to pay. This goes for housing loan, auto loan, credit card debt and the like. That means, before you buy something on credit, ask yourself first if it is something you need and can afford to pay in full the next month, or in reasonable installments over the succeeding months. As for other loans, review the terms carefully and make sure your budget can accommodate the regular amortizations.

6. Teach your children to handle money well. That starts by not buying them right away anything their hearts desire, whether that's the hottest new toy, game console or gadget. There is nothing wrong with giving children rewards, but if you keep giving them material gifts, they may not learn the difference between wants and needs. Prioritize

needs, not wants. Give your children an allowance which will help them learn firsthand what it is to spend, save or give. Teach kids how to budget. Open a bank account in their name and let them see how their money grows. Your children need to know the importance of eight things: budgeting, saving, investing, record-keeping, being content, being good stewards, giving, and having a reward.

7. Build an emergency fund. As the name implies, such a fund is to be used only for emergencies, such as when you suddenly lose your job, or a family member falls ill, or a calamity strikes. Set a time frame on when to complete the fund. Start small and increase amounts as you are able. And consider it a "bill" you have to pay every month. Invest this

fund in an account which will help it grow.

8. Be adequately insured. If you are the head of the family or have people depending on you, it is a must that you take out life insurance, as well as health insurance. You'll never know what may happen in the future. A death, illness, or disability will not only be an emotional blow, but a financial burden on loved ones. Take out as much coverage

that will help your family tide over the crucial months after the event until they can get back on their feet.

9. Diversify your investments. The old adage, "Don't put all your eggs in one basket" holds true when it comes to investing. Spread out your investment over different asset classes so that if one asset class is performing poorly at the moment, other assets' returns may make up for it. Go for investments that will suit your appetite for risk, your

time horizon for investing, and of course your available capital.

10. Live within your means. You don't need to keep up with the neighbors whenever they buy something new. Based on your income, spend only within your limits (as set forth in your budget). Cut costs whenever possible: Take public transport instead of the car every day, make personalized gifts instead of giving out store-bought gifts, host simple instead of lavish parties, and hunt for bargains instead of buying the first thing that you see. Little steps like these amount to a good amount of pesos saved at the end of the year, which you can add to your retirement fund.

This may all seem to be too much in one go, but if you truly wish to turn your situation around, you need to make a commitment for you and your families' financial future. We wish you financial independence and a life well lived. Cheers!

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

The unfolding Kimerald drama

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Jose Javier Reyes has been directing films for 21 years. But this was the first time, he admitted, that he's working with a male lead star who's being bothered by death threats.

When the filmmaker shot crucial scenes for Star Cinema's latest drama romance "Till My Heartaches End" on busy Recto Avenue in Manila, eight policemen were on hand to protect actor Gerald Anderson.

Prior to the downtown shoot, Gerald reportedly received death threats from certain unnamed fans unhappy with rumors that he had broken up with Kim Chiu, his costar in the film.

Making matters worse, Gerald had allegedly gotten into a romantic relationship with fellow Star Magic talent Bea Alonzo, who purportedly received dire death threats as well, along with Gerald's mom.

Tense and intense

Direk Joey recalled that the mood was tense and intense on Recto: "If there was a killer on the loose, it could've been anyone of those hundreds of people milling around Isetann [department store] and the university belt. How would you know?"

Still, he noted that Kim and Gerald took things in stride.

"They were cool naman," the director recounted. "They're basically good kids. It helps that they have friends they could talk to on the set."

He has a theory on why some of the Kimerald fans seem so passionate in expressing their loyalty to the screen couple: "Their fans practically saw them grow up, from being housemates on 'Pinoy Big Brother (Teen Edition)' to reel- and real-life sweethearts. That's why the fans have a strong attachment and feel they have every right to interfere in the stars' professional and personal lives."

It doesn't help that fan magazines, talk shows, Facebook and Twitter have fanned the flames, even blurred the lines between fact and fiction, he explained.

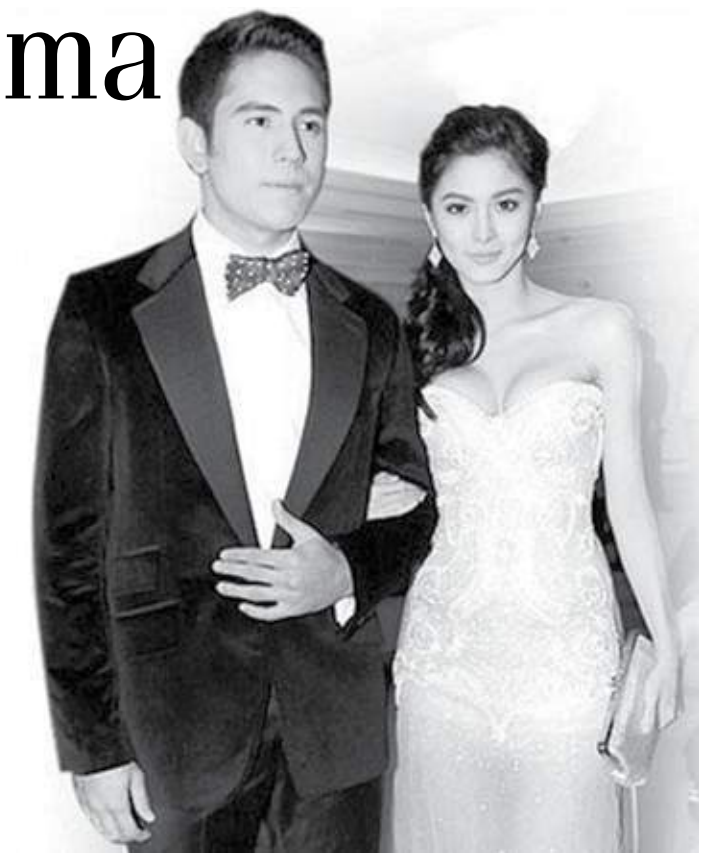
To be fair, the director said, "I met some of the Kimerald fans on the set and they seem well-grounded professionals. They felt bad that they're now being labeled as rabid fans just because of an impassioned few."

Still, isn't Direk Joey afraid of displeasing those "impassioned few" with this new movie?

"I wrote the script, but shot two versions of the ending," he revealed. "I was surprised that Star Cinema chose the ending which they felt was right for the story."

But he admitted that Gerald was seriously affected by the death threats: "He turned blue. He hyperventilated."

As for Kim, in spite of her frail frame, delicate demeanor and nasty suicide rumors, she has turned out to be stronger, Direk Joey pointed out. "During the press con, Gerald had to walk out. He couldn't take it. Not Kim. Although she had a pained expression on her face, she stuck it out."



INQUIRER

Kim and Gerald are "kids who need guidance in dealing with instant fame and fortune."

Ah, the untold dramas of being young and beautiful!

Direk Joey asserted: "People shouldn't just treat them as products or investments. They are kids who need authority figures. They need guidance—especially in dealing with instant fame and fortune."

VIEWFINDER

Dawn Zulueta, fabulous at 41

By NESTOR TORRE
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Thanks to Karen Davila's "Hot Copy" for reminding us that, at 41, Dawn Zulueta is still one of show biz's most interesting, beautiful and talented stars.

Dawn guested on Karen's show to plug her current stage musical, "A Little Night Music," but ended up doing more than that: She made us want to see and hear much more of her in a range of new show biz involvements—soonest!

Dawn made that strong an impression not just because she's retained her fabulous looks, but also because she's matured into a fascinating person with many cogent things to say about a whole range of topics aside from the biz, from parenting to politics.

As she and Karen swapped anecdotes and opinions, we rued the fact that Dawn has been on semi-retirement mode for too long. But, we were cheered by the fact that she wanted to become active again as a performer (but, no telesery e, please, she found taping them too hectic and wearying).

Challenging roles

Yes, she would love to act in

a film for Star Cinema, if the role is good and challenging. No, she didn't see herself running for public office, because she didn't feel up to playing that game, especially not the way it's played in these parts. And (big revelation), she's taking up ballet and is in fact learning to dance "on point," because it's been a dream since, well, forever.

As Dawn revealed more of herself, we agreed with Karen when she observed that Filipino viewers should stop going so gaga over young stars, and should realize that mature or maturing actresses like Ms Zulueta simply have lots more to give than callow, shallow youthfulness.

For one thing, maturity has taught Dawn how to be more candid and forthcoming—within limits, of course. She talked a little bit about Richard Gomez and her other "special friends" in the biz, but made it a point to remind everyone that those relationships were in the distant past, so let's move on shall we?

There's much more to Dawn Zulueta than her dazzling past—like the exciting present, and perhaps an even more exciting future?

Yes, we agree that Dawn should take on more challenging roles in movies, do more stage musicals, dance the ballet and achieve her other dreams. But, if her "Hot Copy" interview left us with anything, it was with the hot-flash realization that Dawn would make a really good talk or talk-variety show host.

She has the looks, charisma, intelligence, flair, gift of gab, good work ethic and genuine interest in people needed for the demanding job. What are our TV producers waiting for—Christmas?

Come to think of it, Christmas 2010 is just around the corner! So, we hope that a new talk show hosted by Dawn will be one of the special gifts waiting for us under our Yuletide tree, just in time to be opened at the start of the 2011 TV season.

Comedy need not be crude and cruel

»Ai Ai gives advice to younger comics

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Although younger and more aggressive comedians like Eugene Domingo, Pokwang and Vice Ganda are battling it out for the fickle audience's attention, Ai Ai de las Alas remains unruffled.

After signing a contract for a new endorsement (Gal's Bakery), Ai Ai offered advice to budding comics to attain longevity in the biz. (She is celebrating her 20th anniversary with a big concert at the Araneta Coliseum, with top-notch guests Sharon Cuneta and Regine Velasquez, next month.)

First tip

"First tip is to always remain humble," she told Inquirer Entertainment. "I can't forget what Mang Gerry, Regine's dad, once said: 'Success in show biz is 50 percent talent and 50 percent pakikisama (good public relations).' Always respect your peers."

Ai Ai counseled her fellow comics: "Always innovate. You can't afford to be lazy in this industry. Someone new and younger will always join the business. But if you have a strong foundation, and a good manager, you can't go wrong."

However, she pointed out that insecurity was never an issue with her, even with the popularity of Eugene, Pokwang and Vice Ganda.

"Be happy for the success of others, so that they will be happy for you, too," added Ai Ai. "In show biz, it's best not to make it your goal to replace someone."

Although she has had her share of box-office hits, she never imagined "upstaging Comedy King Dolphy or Megastar Sharon. How can you possibly beat their records?"

Ai Ai

She also admonished neophyte comics not to be crude and cruel. "There's a trend in comedy bars ...comics now insult the audience. During our time, we directed our jokes at ourselves—not the viewers who paid good money to be entertained."

She related that she and her contemporaries made certain to "observe each audience member. We made sure that they wouldn't get pikon. That they'd be a sport even if we included them in our acts."

It's a constant learning process for the comedienne, who recently went back to school—taking up Public Administration in UP Diliman.

"I took up Mass Communication and graduated from Far Eastern University. Public Ad is my second degree. Parang burn. Second-degree burn," she quipped.

Now, she juggles school reports (on such hot issues as "jueteng"), her ABS-CBN show "Malay Mo Ma-Develop (M3)" and her Metro Manila Film Fest movie "Tanging Ina N'yo Rin 3: Last na 'To."

Reunion movie

She hit it off with her "M3" leading man Aga Muhlach. "He's now living up to his name. Maaga na siya sa set. He reports to work early."

"Tanging Ina 3" serves as reunion for Ai Ai and the original cast of the franchise. "Only two of my former co-stars might not make it: Edu Manzano and Heart Evangelista."

On top of all this, she's coming out with a coffee-table book (with photographer Raymund Isaac) and launching her own businesses (including a Gal's Bakery outlet in Marikina), too.

"I don't get to watch TV, do Facebook and visit my farm in Farmville anymore," she quipped.

Charice, David Foster, Natalie Cole arrive for concert

By POCHOLO CONCEPCION, JEROME ANING
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Singer Charice Pempengco arrived with top composer David Foster and singer Natalie Cole at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal at around 1:15 p.m. on board Japan Airlines flight JAL-741.

Alongside Cole, Charice will sing in a concert dubbed "Hitman: David Foster and Friends" and produced by Foster at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City on October 23.

Wearing a black blazer, miniskirt and black boots, she was mobbed by a group of fans, waiting passengers, airport employees and journalists as she emerged at the arrival lobby over one hour later at around 2:30 p.m., owing to the voluminous luggage and travel papers that needed clearance with airport authorities.

The Philippine concert is part of a long-running tour that started as a special performance on May 23, 2008, at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.

The entourage just finished a two-night stand in Japan. After the Philippine date, it proceeds to Thailand (October 25), Indonesia (October 27), and Singapore (October 29 and 30).

Maharlika – Opinyon

'Budol-budol'

Pinoy Kasi
By MICHAEL TAN
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

It was late Monday morning and I was expecting a quiet end to the work day when I heard a commotion in the room next to my office. One of my staff was on the phone, pleading to someone to bring her children home.

I could tell something had gone terribly wrong, so I went to check what was going on. As my staff explained what had happened, the others in the office shook their heads: "Budol-budol. . ."

This is what happened, or rather this is what seems to be happening maybe on a daily basis. The criminal gang notices that the adult occupants of a home are out working most of the day, leaving the house to a helper. They call in and tell the helper that her "amo" (employer) has had an accident or some other kind of emergency, and needs money badly. The helper is told to look not just for cash but for jewelry or anything that can be used to get money for the employer, and to go to some mall or public place with the money.

In worse cases, as with my staff, the criminals will ask the helper to bring the children as well because the employer wants to see them.

Such cases usually involve a gullible helper but there have also been instances where the helper may be an unwitting accomplice, having been befriended by one of the gang members, maybe even courted.

In the more benign cases, the gang takes the money and disappears. More grim scenarios involve holding the children hostage. In my staff's case, she was lucky that the helper could not find the place where the gang members were supposed to meet her. It might have been that the gang also intentionally gave a wrong meeting place because right after the helper left with the children, the gang broke into the house and took off with money. I shudder still wondering if the gang might have intended to rob my staff twice.

Zesto

Only last month, a friend of mine e-mailed me something from the Internet: "top 10 modus operandi of most common crimes in Manila" and I had e-mailed him back, "This is amazing." Some of the crimes seemed so incredible I wondered if they were urban myths, spread around by word of mouth and the Internet but never really happening.

There's the "airport ambush" where cars repeatedly ram your car, usually in the early morning hours, forcing you to get down and the criminals taking over the car.

Another one involving cars is the "test drive" scam. The criminals respond to your "car for sale" ad, and then ask if they can test drive it. I can't believe there's anyone that trusting as to allow a prospective driver to go off with the car alone but apparently it does happen.

Then there was the Zesto gang, which really blew my mind. Here, you're approached on the bus by someone who looks like a conductor. You hand over your fare and the fake conductor suddenly whips out a Zesto pack, sticks a straw into it and gives it you, demanding payment for the Zesto! Caught off guard, you don't argue and resign yourself to the unwanted Zesto.

Other crimes I had heard of, like a growing problem in high-rise office and residential buildings, where burglars simply walk into unlocked offices and homes. This is actually happening now in school offices and classrooms as well, including at UP.

Then there are the ATM scams, from people peeking behind your shoulder for your security PIN, to metal contraptions that block the slot where you are supposed to get your cash. You think the machine is malfunctioning and walk away, and the techno-savvy thieves step right up, take out the contraption and withdraw your cash.

What happened to my staff was described not as "budol-budol" but "dugo-dugo gang." These faked emergencies are an old scam, dating back many years. The Internet list describes it this way: "This group robs affluent homes by tricking unsuspecting house helpers into helping them get to the homeowners' cash and valuables stash." I've noticed though that lately, the gang (or gangs) have shifted to middle-class families, perhaps because it's become harder for helpers to leave the more upper-class gated subdivisions without their employers' permission.

It's interesting "budol-budol" is explained differently on the Internet list: "The Budol-Budol Gang can strike anywhere using their alleged powers of hypnotism and 'boodle' or counterfeit money—hence the name—that turns out to be just sheets of paper." Sounds like the "wan tu tri" (1, 2, 3) gangs from the past, where the con artists would foist on people, including household helpers, "magic boxes," claiming that if you put money into it, the box would multiply the cash many times over. The shysters would go off, claiming they needed to do incantations and, of course, never come back.

These days, people are smarter so the criminals have to look for new ways, offering quick get-rich schemes. Victims will still claim they were "hypnotized" in the process, which, psychologists will tell you, is a myth—you can't be hypnotized against your will. But yes, you can be easily mesmerized, in a manner of speaking, by the masters of glib talk.

The fact that "budol-budol" is now used, generally, to refer to any kind of scam where people are fooled by smooth talk, tells us how modern crime has evolved. We just might see snatchers and pickpockets, with their use of brute force, eventually disappearing, rapidly being replaced now by criminals who know that the bigger pickings come from fooling people, an incredible use of the powers of persuasion.

And they don't have to be underground syndicates. Some of the worst scams are perpetuated by very legitimate marketing firms operating openly out of malls, approaching the elderly and other people who look easy to fool (like absent-minded professors), and then offer you some deal on appliances, or resorts ("Sir, pa-survey lang," when all they want is your phone number so they can keep pestering you), or insurance. The list of possible scams goes on and on.

EDITORIAL

Fit to be flushed

Was it Joker Arroyo who said that congressmen would sign anything—even a toilet paper—shoved under their noses by a colleague? It seems that the observation Arroyo made firsthand as a member of the House of Representatives has been proven right again. Last Saturday, the House passed a resolution that is fit to be flushed down the can right away.

The resolution which the House approved in the wee hours of the morning calls for the resignation of Teresita Deles as presidential adviser on the peace process. The reason? She had insulted a member of the House and had therefore sullied the integrity of what congressmen often refer to as the "august chamber."

The problem started Wednesday last week during a break in the House deliberations on the budget of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process. Lanao del Norte Representative Fatima Aliah Dimaporo said that when she asked Deles about the peace process, the latter told her to "read up on her (Deles') background (and) read her books." When Dimaporo told her she was "speaking on behalf of Muslim legislators," Deles retorted that "the problem with Muslim legislators is that we are mostly new, and we do not understand how it works." At one point, Dimaporo said in a letter she addressed to House Minority Leader Edcel Lagman, Deles "raised her voice." "The overall tone of Secretary Deles was defensive, bordering on hostile," the congresswoman complained.

Deles has a different recollection of their conversation which she described as "a cordial exchange of ideas." She would later say she was actually "glad to see that there is a young, intelligent Muslim woman who shares my passion for the peace process." And she has saved a text message where the congresswoman thanked her for her replies.

Here are two high-ranking government officials giving completely different versions of the same encounter. So who is telling the truth?

Anyone with the faintest sense of fairness would have first tried to know the answer to that question before condemning one or the other. But truth apparently is immaterial to a House that had plenty of practice hiding it during the many attempts to impeach then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. A colleague felt she had been insulted, so the House felt it had to exact swift retribution on the offender. No one thought of giving Deles a fair hearing. It's the gangster's code of self-preservation in application: My colleague right or wrong.

It's a code that nobody in the House dares to violate. No one among the President's allies rose to question the haste in censuring Deles without hearing her side. Speaker Feliciano Belmonte himself finds it incomprehensible that Deles would treat a lawmaker so badly saying, "Nobody would normally act like that." And he admits that up to now he doesn't know the facts.

So without knowing the facts, the members of the House concluded that Deles was "arrogant" and want her to resign. Without knowing the facts, they would deprive the President of the services of someone he considers fit to guide the peace process to a successful conclusion. Without knowing the facts, some congressmen would reduce to P1 the budget of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process. Then they would blame Deles for putting the peace process in peril. The logic of this position would escape most thinking individuals, but that is because they don't think like congressmen.

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Governor vs bishop in 1636

Looking Back
By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Do we sometimes mistake the conflict between individuals for something bigger? In 1636, the governor-general, Sebastian Hurtado de Corcuera, ordered the archbishop of Manila, Hernando de Guerrero, arrested and banished to Mariveles. While there were unresolved issues of jurisdiction and privilege that led to this state of affairs, was this really a conflict between Church and State or simply personal enmity between Don Sebastian and Padre Hernando? The fascinating part of the story is how the bishop stayed his arrest without an army, and without arms or ammunition. He kept the arresting officers at bay with a piece of unleavened bread. When the governor's troops stormed the archbishop's palace in Intramuros they found Guerrero in full regalia holding a monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament.

The exciting events of May 1636 began with the bishop declaring an interdict on Manila—all churches were closed and all sacraments were denied the faithful. The governor requested, in writing, that the interdict be lifted so life in the "distinguished and ever loyal city" would return to normal. Guerrero sought the advice of the superiors of the different religious orders and all but the Jesuits agreed on keeping the interdict. When the governor ordered the Cathedral surrounded by soldiers, a host was sent for and carried to the bishop in a lunette from the Franciscan convent. This was then placed in the hands of the bishop who was described as "bathed in tears." Messengers called on the governor, warning him of more ecclesiastical censures if he proceeded with the banishment of the bishop. While the bishop's letter was being read, the governor ordered soldiers to extinguish the candles being used by the messengers. This was done with the wave of a hat.

Unable to execute the arrest order because the bishop was holding the Blessed Sacrament and was surrounded by representatives of all the religious orders (except the Jesuits), a constable was ordered by the governor to ask the religious to return to their convents and to arrest the bishop as soon as he released the Blessed Sacrament. Naturally, the priests and religious around the bishop refused to leave; some assisted the bishop, "relieving him at times by easing him of the weight of the lunette, by placing their hands on those of the tired old man, whose eyes were turned into two fountains of tears when he reflected on the acts of desecration that they were practicing on the Supreme Lord."

Growing impatient, the governor went to the archbishop's palace in the middle of the night and, seated by the door, ordered all the priests around the bishop to be physically removed, by force if necessary. When the soldiers refused to comply, they were beaten with fists and the flat of their swords. Thus some of the priests and religious, taking pity on them, allowed themselves to be seized and carried outside. Those who resisted were pushed and hit by soldiers who begged their pardon, saying they were under orders. As the religious were torn away from the bishop, the monstrance fell and the lunette broke. There was a gasp and silence. Lightning did not strike. The monstrance was returned to the bishop, with a strap attached to keep it in place.

To come to the bishop's aid, the religious organized and attempted to go to the palace in a procession supposedly to take hold of the Blessed Sacrament, but they were not allowed to pass. Soldiers were stationed on all streets leading to the palace, and the religious were forced to return to their convents. Back in the palace the governor ordered a soldier, Juan de Santa Ana, to push the hand of the bishop. He refused and "answered boldly that he would kill himself before he would commit such an act of sacrilege. Then drawing his sword, and placing the point (on) his breast, he fell upon it. By the permission of Divine Providence, the sword doubled up in such a manner that when the soldier fell upon it, he was not wounded at all. That incident caused great surprise to all the bystanders; but the governor was so little moved by it that he ordered the soldier to be arrested..."

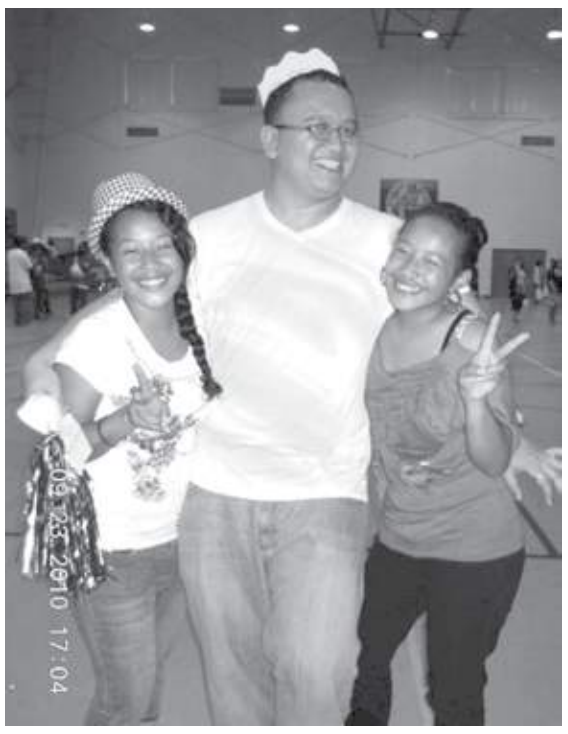
At 1 a.m., the thirsty bishop asked for water. The governor refused him food and drink. Armed soldiers were stationed around the bishop and the vigil continued. A Franciscan, on the pretext of tightening the strap that kept the monstrance in place, applied wet cloth on the bishop's parched lips. This was the only nourishment he got for a day and a half. At dawn of May 10, 1636, the exhausted bishop released the Blessed Sacrament, took off his pontifical robes and was arrested by an adjutant and 50 armed soldiers. This was a bit of an overkill considering that the bishop was a tired old man of 60 years. He was led on foot toward the Pasig where a boat was waiting to take him to Mariveles. Before boarding the "champan" the bishop, following the Gospel, shook the dust from his shoes, picked up five little stones and threw these at the "ingrate walls of Manila." One of these pebbles hit Don Pedro de Corcuera (sargento-mayor) on the leg. Later, it is said, in a battle in Jolo he was hit by a cannon ball on the same spot and died. This is but one of many other engaging episodes in the unwritten history of the Philippines in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari

HONEST ABE

James Sayre, a noted scholar and performer affiliated with Kentucky Chautauqua, brings to life U.S. President Abraham Lincoln during a performance titled "I, too, am a Kentuckian," before hundreds of Saipan Southern High School students in the campus cafeteria last Tuesday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



DYNAMIC DUO

Happy birthday to the Dynamic Duo of Destruction—Jolyn and Jocelyn Saures. Have a super fabulous day girls! Much love coming from your family, friends, and most of all Charisma.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LEODINE'S SPECIAL DAY

Birthday greetings go out to Leodine Atalig who celebrated her birthday today, Oct. 23. Much love coming from all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SUPPORTING LITERACY IN THE CNMI

The Bank of Hawaii Charitable Foundation awarded a $22,360 grant to the NMI Council for the Humanities to strengthen the Motheread Program. Present at the donation ceremony were, from left, Viola S. Deleon Guerrero, Motheread program coordinator; Scott Russell, Humanities Council executive director; John Sheather, senior vice president and deputy division manager, Pacific Islands Division, Bank of Hawaii; Tracy M. Guerrero, Humanities Council board chair, and Eloisa "Lisa" San Nicholas, assistant vice president and service manager, CNMI branches, Bank of Hawaii. The grant will support the training of 20 new community volunteers who will foster family literacy on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

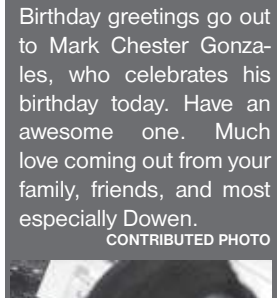
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Birthday greetings go out to Amylynn Maruko Remedio Lizama Babauta who is celebrating her birthday today, Oct. 23. Have a superfantabulous day. Much love coming out from Charisma gi Islan Guahan!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings go out to Denicia Avendano. May you have a blessed and wonderful day and many more birthdays to come. Much love coming from all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Birthday greetings go out to Mark Chester Gonzales, who celebrates his birthday today. Have an awesome one. Much love coming out from your family, friends, and most especially Dowen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A very happy birthday go out to Sharon San Nicolas, KHS counselor, who celebrates her birthday today, Oct. 23. Wishing you many more birthdays to come! Cheers and bottoms up! Coming out from all your family and friends!

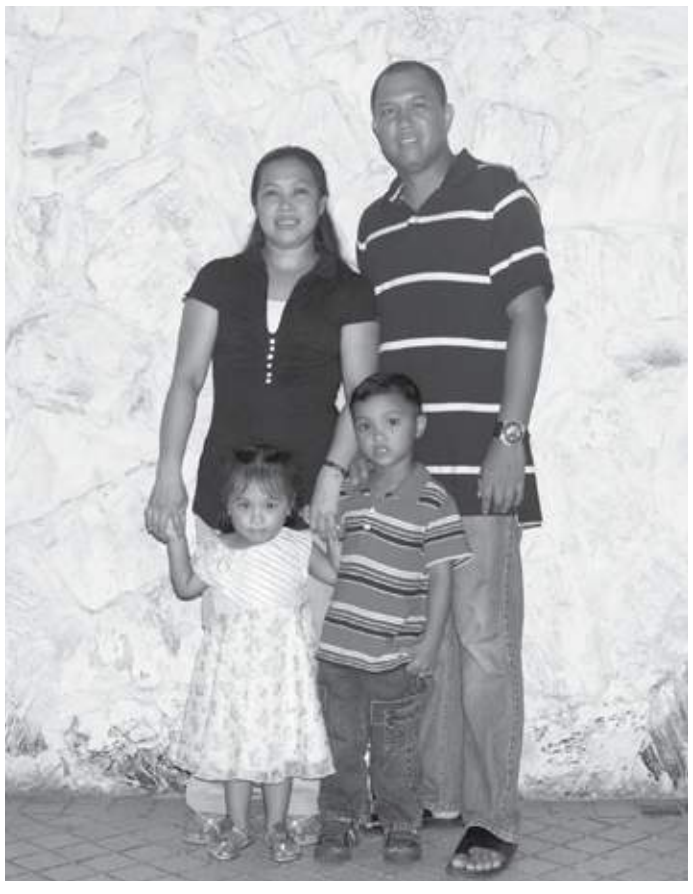
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings go out to Candy Hocog who celebrates her birthday today, Oct. 23. Much love from the crew and your entire fambam!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy second birthday to Joaquin "Keeno" Cruzana who celebrated it yesterday, Oct. 22. May you have many more birthdays to come and God bless! We love you! From your family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



HANNAH'S 2ND BIRTHDAY

Happy second birthday to Arwen Hannah Bartolata who turned two years old last Oct. 22. Also in photo are Mommy Sally, Daddy Jorge, and Kuya Miguel.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Mars Mongami on your A.A. degree in Education from Axia College Online. He will also be starting his B.S. in Accounting in University of Phoenix Online. God bless you and much love from your wife and kids.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

Fatal crashes involving teen drivers drop

By MIKE STOBBE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ATLANTA (AP)—Far fewer people are dying in car crashes with teens at the wheel, but it's not because teenagers are driving more cautiously. Experts say laws are tougher, and cars and highways are safer.

Fatal car crashes involving teen drivers fell by about a third over five years, according to a new federal report that credits tougher restrictions on younger drivers.

The number of deaths tied to these accidents dropped from about 2,200 in 2004 to 1,400 in 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The CDC looked at fatal accidents involving drivers who were 16 or 17. There were more than 9,600 such incidents during the five-year span, and more than 11,000 people died, including more than 4,000 of the teen drivers and more than 3,400 of their passengers.

The report is being published in Friday's issue of the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

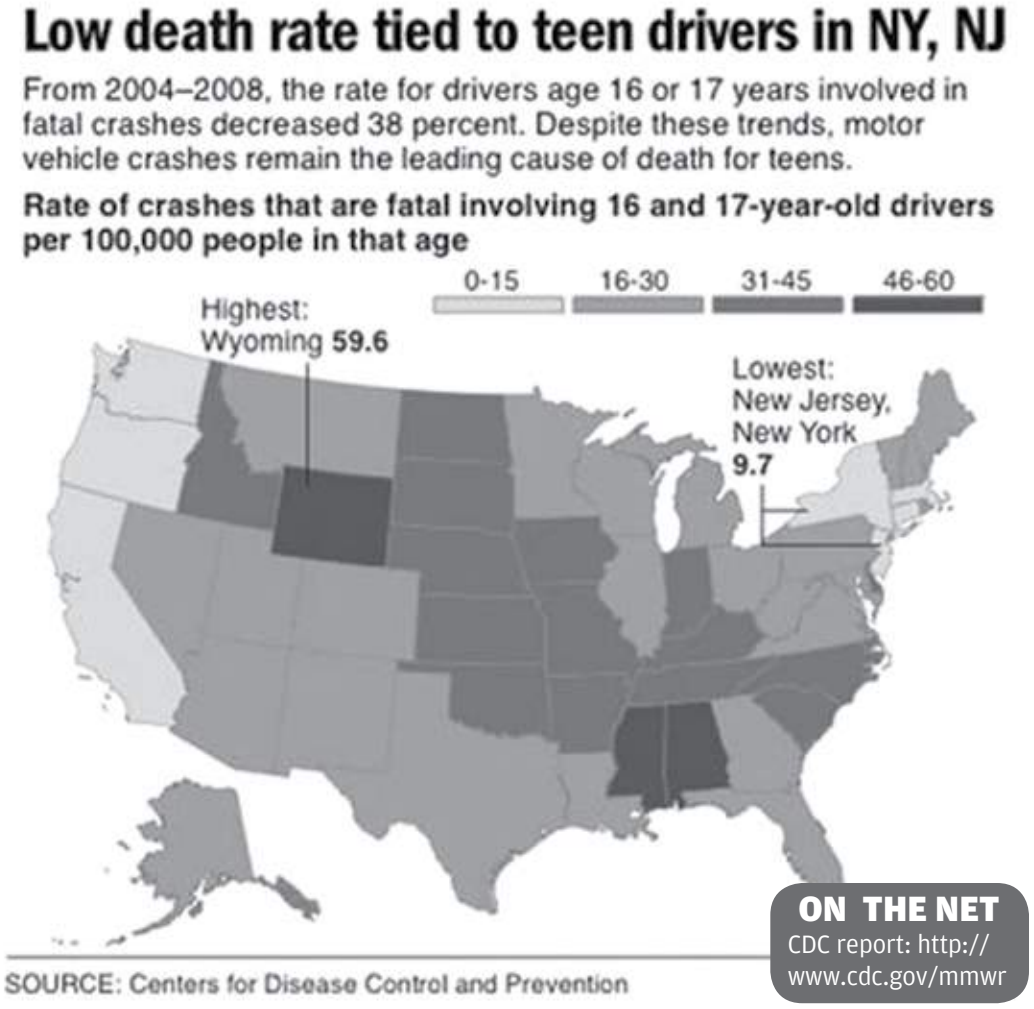
The rate of such fatal crashes has been declining since 1996. Experts credit a range of factors, including safer cars with air bags and highway improvements, which reduce the risk of death.

The number of non-fatal accidents involving drivers 16 and 17 years old has been dropping as well—by 31 percent from 2004 through 2008, according to government figures.

The decline is similar to the 36 percent drop in fatal crashes reported in the new CDC report.

Experts say a chief reason is that most states have been getting tougher on when teens can drive and when they can carry passengers.

"It's not that teens are becoming safer," said Russ Rader, spokesman for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, an Arlington, Va.-based research group funded by auto insurance companies.


Low death rate tied to teen drivers in NY, NJ
From 2004–2008, the rate for drivers age 16 or 17 years involved in fatal crashes decreased 38 percent. Despite these trends, motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for teens.
Rate of crashes that are fatal involving 16 and 17-year-old drivers per 100,000 people in that age
0-15
16-30
31-45
46-60
Highest: Wyoming 59.6
Lowest: New Jersey, New York 9.7
SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

ON THE NET
CDC report: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr

"It's that state laws enacted in the last 15 years are taking teens out of the most hazardous driving situations," such as driving at night or with other teens in the car, he said.

Graduated driver's licensing programs, as they are called, began appearing in 1996, and 49 states now have them. Some are stricter than others, which may be one reason death rates vary by state, Rader said.

The CDC found that Wyoming had the highest death rate, with about 60 traffic fatalities involving 16- and 17-year-old drivers per 100,000 people that age. New York and New Jersey, which have rigorous driving restrictions on teens, had the lowest rates, about 10 per 100,000.

Wyoming's driver's license laws are laxer than some other states. For example, 16-year-olds are allowed to drive until 11 p.m., or in some cases even later, while other states force them off the roads starting at 9 p.m.

The author of the report, CDC epidemiologist Ruth Shults, said rural states such as Wyoming tend to have higher rates of traffic deaths. One problem is that remote stretches of road are hard to reach quickly by ambulance, and even harder to get a critically injured person to a trauma center, experts say.

Lorrie Pozarik, a consultant to Wyoming state government on traffic safety issues, said the state ranks poorly in seat-belt use. A love of pickup trucks has a lot to do with that.

"People feel like, 'I'm in a pickup, I don't need a belt,'" Pozarik said. "Our No. 1 fatal crash is a single-vehicle rollover. It happens to be the one crash where a seat belt is most effective when it comes to saving your life.

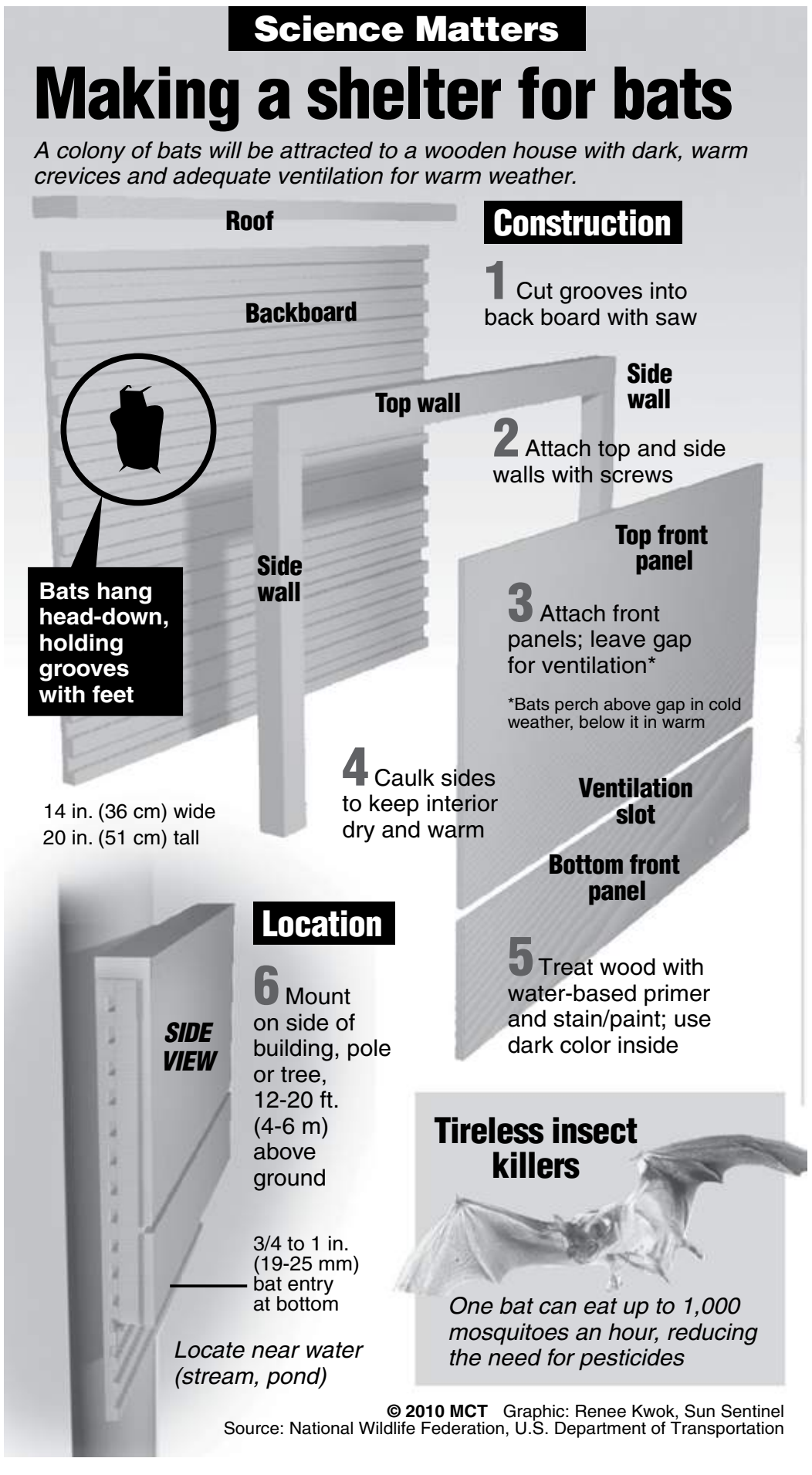
"The bottom line is that we have no perception of risk in Wyoming," Pozarik continued. "You're driving along the highway, there isn't a car in sight. You can see 10 miles in 20 directions, and you're sort of sitting back and cruising."

In New York, the driver's license restrictions can at times be annoying, said Ali Janicki, a 17-year-old high school senior in the town of North White Plains.

Janicki had a "junior" license when she was 16, which restricted her from driving after 9 p.m. and from driving with more than one other youth in the car. She broke the rules a few times, giving her sister and a friend a ride home from school, or driving home from a movie after 9.

Sometimes, she also needed a parent to drive her to nighttime parties. "It kind of bugged me," she said. "But I understand why."

She said she was nearly in an accident Thursday, but blamed another - older - driver's error. "I think older people, past about 40, should have to take a test and make sure their eyes are still working the same way," she said.


Science Matters
Making a shelter for bats
A colony of bats will be attracted to a wooden house with dark, warm crevices and adequate ventilation for warm weather.
Roof
Backboard
Top wall
Side wall
Side wall
Bats hang head-down, holding grooves with feet
14 in. (36 cm) wide
20 in. (51 cm) tall
Construction
1 Cut grooves into back board with saw
2 Attach top and side walls with screws
Top front panel
3 Attach front panels; leave gap for ventilation*
*Bats perch above gap in cold weather, below it in warm
4 Caulk sides to keep interior dry and warm
Ventilation slot
Bottom front panel
5 Treat wood with water-based primer and stain/paint; use dark color inside
Location
SIDE VIEW
6 Mount on side of building, pole or tree, 12-20 ft. (4-6 m) above ground
3/4 to 1 in. (19-25 mm) bat entry at bottom
Locate near water (stream, pond)
Tireless insect killers
One bat can eat up to 1,000 mosquitoes an hour, reducing the need for pesticides
© 2010 MCT Graphic: Renee Kwok, Sun Sentinel
Source: National Wildlife Federation, U.S. Department of Transportation

First lady honors arts programs for at-risk youth

WASHINGTON (AP)—Kids took the stage and celebrities sat in the audience Wednesday as first lady Michelle Obama honored community arts programs that help young people around the country develop their talents and succeed in life.

Mrs. Obama presented 15 after-school and out-of-school programs, many of them serving at-risk youth, with the 2010 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. She said the programs teach young people that "each of them has something of value to contribute."

Obama

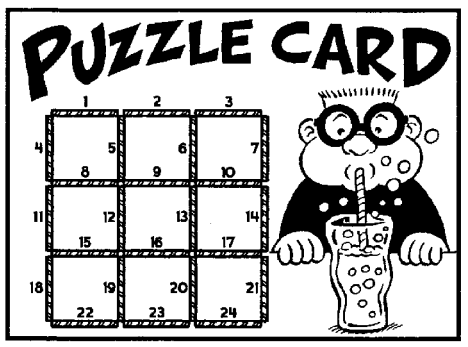
The East Room erupted in whoops and hollers after a handful of solemn-looking youngsters from an arts program in Hartford, Conn., carefully took the stage and then burst forth as a jazz combo performing with tap dancers.

"You never know the hidden passion that's in a kid," Mrs. Obama declared after their performance.

She called the arts programs "shining examples of using success in the arts and humanities as a bridge to success in life."

The award is presented on behalf of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, in partnership with three national cultural agencies. The committee includes a number of celebrities, and some of them were on hand for the White House ceremony, including Sarah Jessica Parker, Forest Whitaker and Kerry Washington.

PUZZLE CARD



A BUBBLY BAFFLER! Billy knows how to remove eight of the straws in our drawing and have four squares left. Do you?

Answer: Remove straws 2, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 23.

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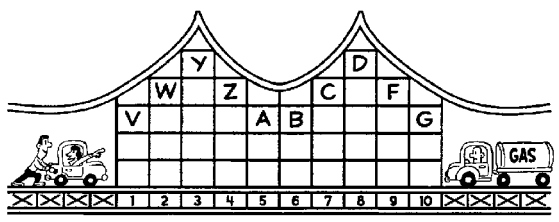
Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A WORD BRIDGE!



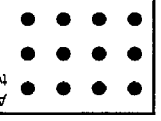
Illustrated by David Coulson

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints.

1. Vitality and energy.
2. What we all work for.
3. World War II soldiers.
4. A Greek god.
5. Your goal in life.
6. A clothing protector.
7. A casual conversation.
8. Silly, foolish.
9. A person who snitches on someone (sl).
10. A type of feeling.

Answers: 1. Vim. 2. Wage. 3. Yanks. 4. Zeus. 5. Aim. 6. Bib. 7. Chat. 8. Daffy. 9. Fink. 10. Gut.

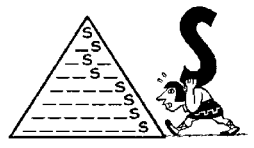
DON'T GET BOXED IN! How many squares and rectangles can you form by connecting the dots in our drawing?



Answer: We found 20 rectangles and squares of various sizes. Did you miss the two squares that you can form diagonally in the center?

THE "S" PYRAMID! As you move down the word pyramid shown here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the S's. Here are some hints from the top down:

1. Symbol for sulfur (given).
2. For instance.
3. To seek an answer.
4. What we do in the sun.
5. Birds have them.
6. Cars must have them.
7. Large drinking cups.
8. Sweet places to work.



Answers: S, as, ask, bask, beaks, brakes, beakers, bakeries.

Why do dogs eat dirt?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Since becoming a cat owner (I adopted "Sally" in March), I've had this fear that something will go wrong with her and I won't catch it in time, like an illness or injury. Sometimes she meows a lot, and I'm not sure why it is, but I'm embarrassed to contact the veterinarian because it doesn't seem like a big problem. When should I call the vet?—Gerry T., via e-mail

DEAR GERRY: That you're worried about the possibility of Sally getting sick shows that you're a caring pet owner, and that you probably keep a close eye on her general health and behavior. I can understand your worrying about an illness going undetected, especially if you're a first-time owner.

Most veterinarians are understanding and available to check out Sally anytime you're not sure about her general health. You should always be able to call the vet's office with questions, and if a phone call doesn't allay your concerns, the front desk should schedule a visit with the vet and not put you off.

While it's unlikely that a healthy, well-adjusted cat will have an emergency, it pays to be prepared. For example, your cat might be attacked by another pet and suffer injuries. Have some basic first-aid supplies on hand and easy to access just in case: gauze bandages, disinfectant, an emergency blanket. Also, have the number of the nearest 24-hour emergency veterinary clinic posted next to your phone or in your mobile phone's address book, in addition to the regular vet's number.

■ ■ ■

Have a question about your pet? Contact Sam at ask@pawscorner.com., or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was French poet, journalist and novelist Anatole France who made the following sage observation: "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread."

■ Those who study such things claim that baby girls smile more than baby boys.

■ While in space, astronauts can't use traditional salt and pepper. If they tried to sprinkle the condiment on food, it would just float away, possibly clogging air vents and otherwise wreaking havoc. So some bright person came up with liquid forms of the seasonings.

■ The English word for the fruit "squash" comes from the language of the Native American Narragansett tribe. It means "something eaten green."

■ If you ever decide to participate in a public protest in Greece, remember not to wear sunglasses. Since shades can hide your face, wearing them is illegal during demonstrations there.

■ The Oldsmobile motor company also made early gasoline-powered lawnmowers.

■ Wilhelm Rontgen discovered X-rays in 1895, and his work earned him the first Nobel Prize in Physics. His work also set off a fad among many women, who refused to undress even behind closed doors. They feared that X-rays could be used to see through walls to spy on intimate moments.

■ The famed Pony Express didn't actually use ponies—just horses.

■ After the vows have been said in a traditional Korean wedding, the groom formally introduces his new wife to his parents. The bride's father-in-law then pelts the bride with red dates, which is supposed to ensure fertility.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps, for he is the only animal that is struck with the difference between what things are and what they ought to be."— William Hazlitt

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MAGIC MAZE ● CHARLES —

G	T	R	O	L	J	G	E	B	Y	W	U	R	P	N
K	A	I	D	G	D	B	Z	X	V	S	Q	O	M	K
I	T	L	A	R	U	K	G	E	H	C	A	Y	W	U
S	L	Q	R	N	R	P	L	G	G	N	L	J	H	F
C	A	E	W	C	A	A	N	R	R	A	Y	X	V	S
H	S	U	I	S	U	I	E	B	E	Q	P	N	M	N
A	K	C	N	G	L	J	D	Y	B	Y	H	F	E	E
P	C	B	H	G	Z	Y	X	D	D	O	O	V	U	K
L	T	T	N	U	R	N	O	S	N	O	R	B	Q	C
I	O	I	P	O	L	M	L	K	I	A	O	I	H	I
N	R	E	V	I	R	Z	E	L	L	U	A	G	E	D

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

And Diana	Chaplin	Goodyear	Ringling
Atlas	Darwin	Kuralt	River
Boyer	de Gaulle	Laughton	Schulz
Bronson	Dickens	Lindbergh	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	÷		x		20
+		+		x	
	x		+		31
x		x		–	
	+		x		30
16		27		22	

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 3 4 5 6 7 8

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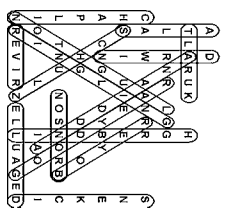
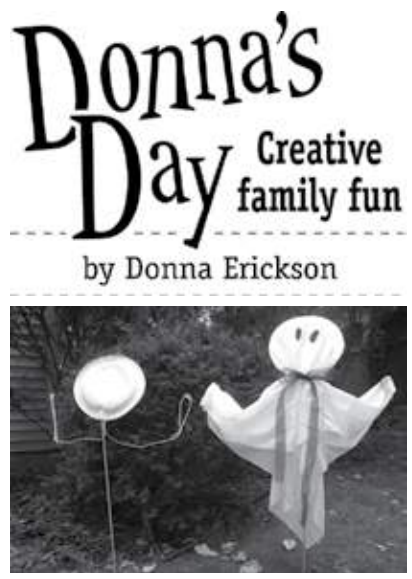
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

5	÷	1	x	4	20
+		+		x	
3	x	8	+	7	31
x		x		–	
2	+	3	x	6	30
16		27		22	

Ghostly greeters give gentle fright



These friendly garden ghost greeters will give a gentle fright on Halloween night when partygoers and trick-or-treaters stroll up the walkway to your home.

They are simple enough for families to make at the last minute and use basic items you probably have on hand. Dress up several in different heights, shapes and sizes for extra "Boos!"

Here's the stuff you'll need for one ghost:

■ 2 large, sturdy white dinner-size paper plates

■ 2 standard, lightweight wire clothes hangers

■ a 3-foot-long section of 1/2-inch dowel from the hardware store. An old broomstick, yardstick or tree branch of the same length also works

■ 1 piece of 45-inch-by-45-inch lightweight white lining fabric, or use a lightweight white plastic disposable tablecloth cut to size

■ 2 yards 1-inch-wide black ribbon

■ Self-stick craft foam sheets or felt and glue

■ Duct tape

■ Pliers and stapler

Here's the Halloween fun:

1. To make arms for the ghost, unwind the top of the hanger and straighten out the semi "S" shape. The hanger will look like a three-sided topless rectangle in front of you: a short side, a base and a long side.

2. Bend the short side down to the base, and twist the wire in place with pliers to form a narrow loop. You now have one arm. Repeat with a second hanger for the other arm.

3. Twist together the top 4 inches of the long sides of both hangers. Wrap the twisted portion with tape to secure in place. Now you will have two outstretched arms and a neck at the point where the hangers are twisted together.

4. Tape the "neck" potion of the hanger to the top of the dowel, and then tape that part to the middle of the inside of a paper plate. Set a second plate on top and staple around all edges to complete the head shape.

5. Now it's time to dress the ghost. Fold the fabric into a large triangle. Set the center fold evenly over the plate head and spread over the outstretched wire arms. Tape the very ends of the arms to the underside of the fabric to hold it in place. Tie the ribbon around the neck of the ghost just below the round plates. Cut two ghostly eye shapes out of craft foam or felt. Stick them on or glue them to the fabric face.

6. Poke the dowel or stick into the ground by your walkway. To display on a porch or deck, poke into a clay pot filled with sand.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Steamy 'Glee' GQ pics have many, well, steaming

NEW YORK (AP)—You're a couple of great-looking, talented young actresses on the hottest show on TV. You're adults. So why NOT pose for some seriously saucy photos in GQ, a magazine for adult men?

Well, it gets a little thorny when the show is "Glee," beloved by 8- and 9-year-olds, and when you're posing as a high-school girl in nothing but skimpy panties, spreading your legs sky-wide on a locker room bench. Or suggestively licking a lolly as you lean—in the same skimpy panties—on a high-school locker.

Did the stars of "Glee" go too far?

That's what critics and fans of the show have been debating as the photo spread in GQ's November issue, featuring Lea Michele (the ambitious Rachel) and Dianna Agron (Quinn, the once-pregnant cheerleader), started circulating this week. Oh yes, male co-star Cory Monteith (the quarterback Finn) is in there, too—but he remains clothed (in fact, he's practically bundled up.)

"I just wasn't impressed at all," said a disapproving Emily Martin, a mother in Ontario, Canada, and a self-professed "huge Glee fan."

"I guess I just don't understand why they chose to even pose for these photos in the first place," Martin wrote in an e-mail message. "I don't get what they hope to gain by putting themselves out there like that."

Her feelings were echoed by commentators as prominent as Katie Couric, who devoted an opinion segment on Wednesday's "CBS Evening News" to the photo flap.

"I'm a Gleek," she began, saying how she and her 14-year-old daughter watch the show every week. But she decried the photos, particularly Michele's spread-eagle one, as "raunchy" and "un-Glee-like," and concluded: "I'm disappointed."

GQ
★SCORE!
A MAN'S GUIDE TO THE BEST NEW CLOTHES IN AMERICA & WHERE TO FIND THEM
★OFF CAMPUS WITH TV'S BIGGEST HIT
GLEE GONE WILD
WE SHOW YOU WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE TEACHERS AREN'T AROUND
BURIED ALIVE
THE DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO SAVE 33 MEN TRAPPED UNDERGROUND
KID ROCK
THE COOLEST SMALL CITIES
THE NEW GOD OF THE NBA
MUG SHOTS
THE GREATEST FACES IN MOVIES

AP

In this publicity image released by GQ, from left, Dianna Agron, Cory Monteith, and Lea Michele, from the TV series "Glee," are shown on the cover the November 2010 issue of "GQ" magazine, on sale on Oct. 26. Many

"Utterly tone-deaf," chimed in Salon.com. "An explosion of cliched fetishism not seen outside the cheap Halloween costume aisles," wrote EW.com. Not surprisingly, though, the harshest commentary came from the Parents Television Council.

"It borders on pedophilia," said Tim Winter, president of the council. He called the spread a "near-pornographic display"—especially the "full-frontal crotch shot."

As for GQ, which is enjoying a burst of publicity, it took issue with the pedophilia reference—pointing out that Agron and Michele are 24, and Monteith is 28. "I think they're old enough to do what they want," said GQ's editor in chief, Jim Nelson.

In an e-mail to The Associated Press, Nelson elaborated: "I don't think it will surprise anyone that we knew what we were doing," he wrote. "I think most people will take the pictures with the wink and spirit of fun in which they were made."

Nelson added: "What we wanted to celebrate in the shoot and the story is (the show's) playfulness, its wicked sense of fun, the clever way it plays with its self-awareness. And it doesn't hide from it sexual suggestiveness."

No question about that. "Glee," which airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m. Eastern on Fox, frequently deals with mature themes: Teen pregnancy, homosexuality, the loss of virginity. Some parents bristled last season at a scene where Finn ejaculated in a hot tub. And this season, the cheerleaders Santana and Brittany were not only shown making out on a bed—one of them referred to a hard-core lesbian sex act.

And yet, in a dilemma for parents, kids as young as 8 and 9 adore the show, drawn in by its wonderfully energetic and witty musical numbers. For them, it's a much cooler, hipper "High School Musical." If one had any doubt as to the youthfulness of the fan base, they need only have witnessed the legions of squealing tweens at last spring's "Glee" concert tour.

The show's creators didn't quite expect that at first.

"We didn't know 9-year-olds would like it so much," co-creator and executive producer Brad Falchuk told the AP in May. "We didn't know the geriatric set would like it so much, either. I wish we knew how we did it."

Robin Williams to make Broadway debut as a tiger

NEW YORK (AP)—Robin Williams will make his Broadway debut next year in the play "Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo."

Producers say the award-winning actor has signed on to join Rajiv Joseph's dark comedy that will follow the fall of Saddam Hussein. It's narrated by a philosophical tiger who encounters two American marines and an Iraqi gardener.

Williams will play the tiger. Moises Kaufman will direct the play, which premiered last year in Los Angeles.

Broadway previews begin March 10 with an opening set for March 31.

Williams starred off-Broadway in 1988 opposite Steve Martin in a revival of "Waiting for Godot."

AP

In this Oct. 2, 2010 file photo, Robin Williams appears on stage at Comedy Central's "Night Of Too Many Stars: An Overbooked Concert For Autism Education" at the Beacon Theatre in New York.

Harry Potter props, costumes on display in Seattle

SEATTLE (AP)—A few lucky visitors first are invited to try on the sorting hat, which compliments them on their bravery, intelligence or cunning. Then, a few steps down a dark corridor, you are surrounded by a cloud of steam. Ahead is the train station, where the Hogworts Express has just arrived.

You have entered "Harry Potter: The Exhibition," a showcase filled with the imagery evoked in J.K. Rowling's seven-part series about an orphan named Harry who discovers he is part of a mostly hidden magical world. The traveling museum show opens in Seattle on Saturday.

What Harry Potter fan hasn't wanted to sit for a bit in a giant chair at Hagrid's cottage, watching to see if the dragon's egg shaking and rattling on the table is going to open? The show also give fans a chance to test their Quidditch skills and see up close the beautiful gowns the actors wore to the Yule Ball in "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

Costumes and props from the seven movies are in Seattle for an exhibition at the Pacific Science Center, including a few that weren't shown when the show stopped previously in Chicago, Boston and Ontario. Seattle is the last stop—for now—in the United States for the 10,000 square-foot exhibit.

"The filmmakers have been great. They love the exhibition and love sharing things with the fans," said Eddie Newquist, chief creative officer of Global Experience Specialists, an exhibition and trade show company based in Las Vegas.

Newquist said it took two years to create the exhibit, and it continues to evolve as the filmmakers release more props. The seventh movie opens Nov. 19, and one more film is planned.

From the seventh movie, the exhibition includes a decoy detector, Rita Skeeter's biography of Albus Dumbledore, and a costume worn by Helena Bonham Carter, who plays Bellatrix LeStrange.

As you enter the castle, the fat lady, who usually sits in a picture frame that blocks the entrance to the Gryffindor Common Room and Harry's digs at Hogwarts invites the visitor to stop and enjoy her singing. When you start to walk away, she signals the visitor to give her just a little more time.

In the end, she breaks her wine glass on the wall when she can't break it by singing—just like in the movie.

Just about everything the fan has ever wanted to take a closer look at is on display: from the tapestry outside the Room of Requirement—it's painted not woven—to the creepy, crawlers stored in jars in the potions classroom, plus the marauder's map, Harry's broomstick, various school uniforms, everybody's wands and Dobby the house elf.

A few things were missing from the displays, including owls, which were not seen until the gift shop.

The show has only a few hands-on exhibits: tossing a quaffle, pulling a mandrake from its pot and sitting on Hagrid's chair. But a group of second graders, many who hadn't read any of the books or seen the movies, were quickly immersed in the displays and hyped up with excitement, without any assistance from the sweets on display at the end.

Kyleigh Ball, 7, who has read the first book in the series, said her favorite part was the costume displays.

"I thought it was great," she said. When asked if anything in the exhibit was too scary, Kyleigh added, "I definitely don't want my best friend to get freaked out by the statues. They were scary."

AP

This undated image provided by Warner Bros. Entertainment via the Pacific Science Center shows children pulling a Mandrake in the Herbology area of "Harry Potter: The Exhibition," at the center in Seattle, Wash.

Anna Chapman strips to lingerie in Maxim photos

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian spy Anna Chapman was revealed by others in June as a sleeper agent in the United States. Now she's decided to reveal more of herself.

She's stripped down to black lingerie for a photospread in the Russian edition of Maxim, appearing on the cover of the November issue under the caption "For Your Eyes Only." That's the title of a 1981 movie featuring the fictional British spy James Bond. The magazine hits the shelves Friday.

Since Chapman, a red-haired 28-year-old, was deported from the U.S. along with nine other sleeper agents as part of the biggest spy swap since the Cold War, she has said little about her work as a spy, limiting interviews instead to schmaltz.

True to form, she reveals nothing of spycraft in a short interview that accompanies the racy photos in Maxim.

"Charm, like love and friendship, is the same everywhere," she informs the magazine.

"Most men can be divided into three categories: the primitive ones who only need sex, the smarter ones who want to be loved, and then the last group, those who not only want to be loved but also need for that love to be the biggest and most beautiful feeling in their lives. It's hardest of all with this last group, but that's my favorite one."

Chapman might be choosing her topics carefully out of fear that, with one misplaced word, she could be toast.

In a country led by a former spy, Vladimir Putin, and where loyalties and connections often trump the laws of the land, a revealing interview is betrayal. It could be—at least with respect to one's career—fatal.

As a spy, albeit a failed one, Chapman understands the need for self-censorship better than most. Better a revealing photo than a revealing interview.

She brushed away questions from a reporter when she made an appearance at the launching of a Russian rocket earlier this month from a cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. And she was a no-show at a hip Moscow nightclub, despite having promised the club's management she'd turn up.

"The most negative feeling I am capable of having toward a man is pity," she tells Maxim. The cover shot shows her in black lingerie, holding a gun aloft as huge diamond earrings shine from behind flowing red locks.

And she is as hazy about her future plans as she is about her past.

Her burning desire is "to open interesting, creative projects, to put my soul into them, to help realize the talents of my team, to make people happy," she says.

For a spy who, along with the others, sang patriotic songs with Putin upon returning to the Motherland, and who received the state's highest honor in an award ceremony at the Kremlin earlier this week, her career options appear plentiful. She was recently unveiled as the face of an obscure Russian bank with the same initials as the country's main spy agency.

Right now, though, she's focusing on cementing her James Bond chic and, for the most part, Russian media are happy to play along.

AP

In this photo provided by Maxim Russian edition magazine Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010, the front cover of Novermber 2010 issue of the magazine shows Anna Chapman posing with a gun.

Peter Jackson announces 'Hobbit' cast

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Amid disputes over where "The Hobbit" movies will be shot, Peter Jackson and the executives behind film have announced the cast for the anticipated two-picture tale.

They say Martin Freeman will play hero Bilbo Baggins and Richard Armitage will portray Thorin Oakenshield, the leader of the Company of Dwarves.

Jackson said in a statement Thursday that Freeman is "exactly like Bilbo and I feel incredibly proud to be able to announce that he is our Hobbit." He called Armitage "one of the most exciting and dynamic actors working on screen today."

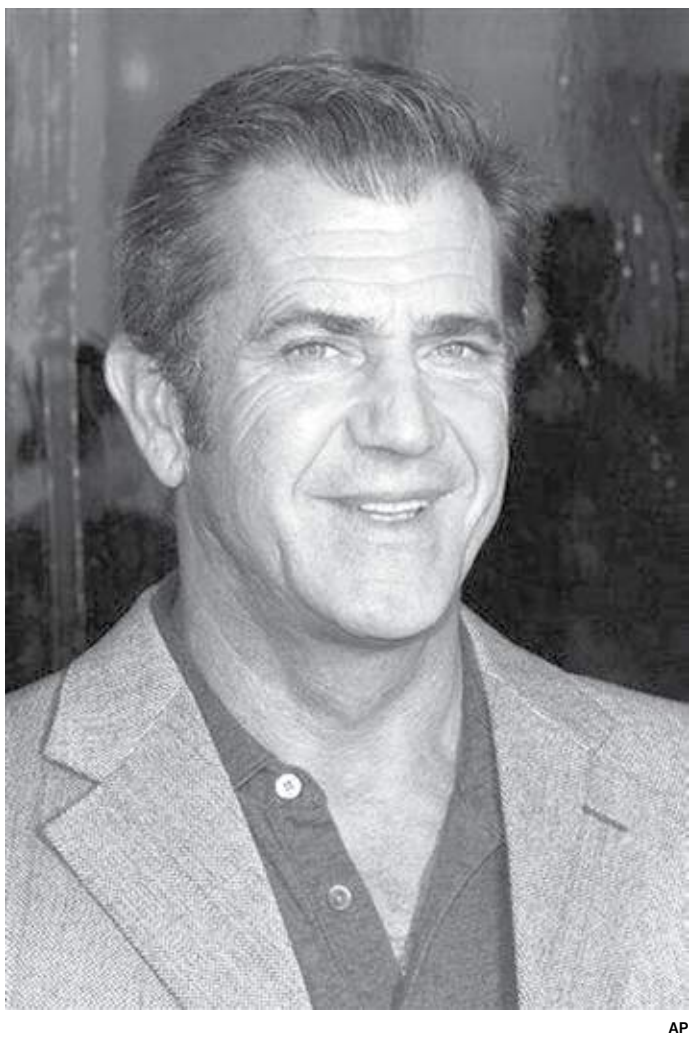
Other actors joining the ensemble cast are Aidan Turner, Graham McTavish, John Callen, Stephen Hunter, Mark Hadlow and Peter Hambleton.

"The Hobbit," based on the J.R.R. Tolkien novel, began production in New Zealand earlier this month. The films are set for release in December of 2012 and December of 2013.

AP

In this photo taken June 28, 2010, a sculpture of Gollum, the villainous "Lord of the Rings" hobbit, stands in front of a welcome sign, in Hobbiton Town, Matamata, New Zealand.

Mel Gibson's appearance in 'Hangover 2' canceled



AP

In this Oct. 29, 2007 file photo, actor Mel Gibson arrives at the premiere of American Gangster in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mel Gibson's planned cameo in "The Hangover Part II" has been canceled.

Warner Bros. Pictures and director Todd Phillips say the embattled actor won't be appearing in the sequel to the popular ensemble comedy. Gibson's cameo role as a tattoo artist in the film was announced earlier this week.

Phillips said Thursday that producers supported his decision to cast Gibson, who has been engaged in a high-profile custody battle with ex-girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva, but the decision "ultimately did not have the full support of my entire cast and crew."

The film is set to reunite Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Justin Bartha and Ed Helms, who starred in the 2009 summer blockbuster. The sequel is scheduled for release next year.

Single mom wonders when to introduce son to suitors

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single mom to my 10-year-old son. I have dated on and off for six years. My question is, how soon is too soon to introduce male friends who may become boyfriends?

I don't want to scare a guy away, and I also don't want to risk having my son become attached to someone who may not be in the picture long.

YOUNG IDAHO MOM

DEAR YOUNG MOM: Does your son know you're dating? Do the men you're seeing know you have a child? Any man who would be scared off after learning you have a son isn't for you anyway.

Ten-year-olds today are not as sheltered as they once were. If you are seeing someone regularly, your boy may be curious to meet him. Some women wait until a man is ready to commit before making an introduction. Others wait six months to a year. There are no hard and fast rules. Play it by ear.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a sophomore in high school, and I really like this girl, but there's a problem. I never know what to say to her—or any girl, for that matter. The right words never come to mind. All my guy friends are what I guess you would call "ladies' men," and I'm tired of everyone else making fun of me.

I have liked this girl for a long time but she's—how do you say it—"out of my league." I have seen her turn down guys just like me. What should I do?

SHY GUY IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR SHY: Start talking to girls in general. Ask questions about school, athletic events, movies or television shows they may have seen. The more you do it, the more comfortable you will become. You don't need to put yourself on the line by immediately asking anyone out. Just try to get to know them and their interests -- and let them get to know you. If you do, your chances of a girl saying yes when you ask one out will be better.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been having an affair for several years. I deeply love this man. I love my husband, too, but in a different way. I don't understand how I can love two men so differently.

The love I feel for my lover is unconditional. When we are together it just feels right. I love my husband because he's a good man and father who would do anything for me. In other words, I love the person he is, but not the man himself.

My lover is younger than I am, and married. He's my best friend and I can confide anything to him. I have met some of his family, and I suspect some of them know about us.

My husband and I tried marriage counseling, but I can't seem to have with him what I have with my lover. I broke off the affair in an attempt to work things out with my husband, but it didn't work. I don't know what else to do.

TORN IN FREEHOLD, N.J.

DEAR TORN: Because ending your affair and marriage counseling with your husband weren't able to fix what's missing in your marriage, perhaps it's time to call it quits. Your husband has done nothing wrong, and frankly, he deserves something better than half a wife.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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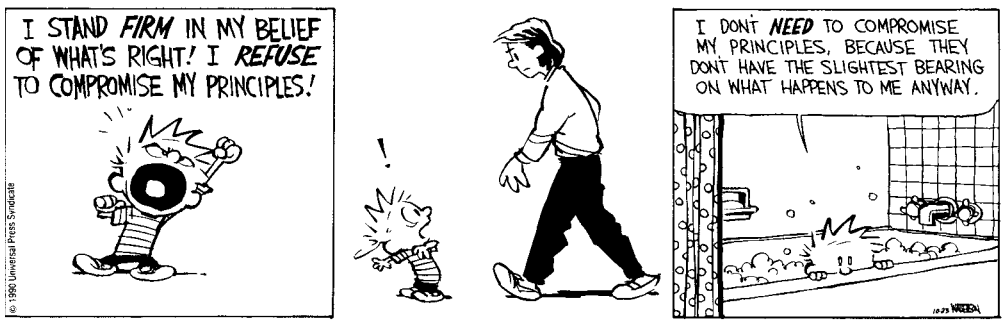
1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106; (816) 581-7500

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I STAND FIRM IN MY BELIEF OF WHAT'S RIGHT! I REFUSE TO COMPROMISE MY PRINCIPLES!
!
I DON'T NEED TO COMPROMISE MY PRINCIPLES, BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST BEARING ON WHAT HAPPENS TO ME ANYWAY.
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Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS WRONG!
WRONG, I TELL YOU!
THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY IF YOU EVER DO SOMETHING
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN
JIM DAVIS 10-23
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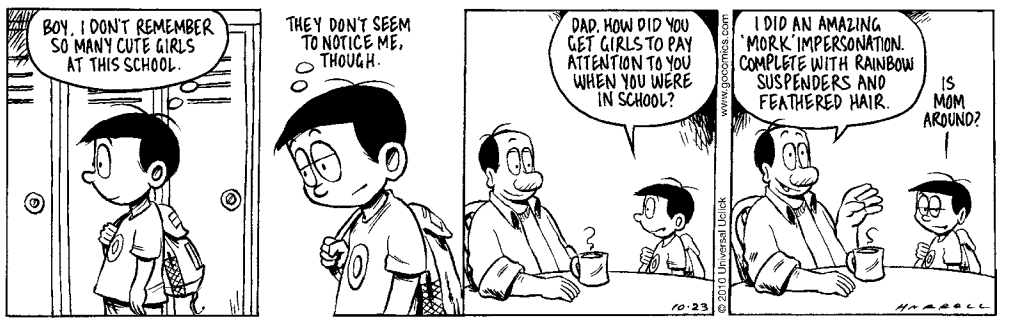
www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


BOY, I DON'T REMEMBER SO MANY CUTE GIRLS AT THIS SCHOOL.
THEY DON'T SEEM TO NOTICE ME, THOUGH.
DAD, HOW DID YOU GET GIRLS TO PAY ATTENTION TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE IN SCHOOL?
I DID AN AMAZING 'MORK' IMPERSONATION. COMPLETE WITH RAINBOW SUSPENDERS AND FEATHERED HAIR.
IS MOM AROUND?
© 2010 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com
10-23

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

Hello? IS THIS GHOST-B-GONE? YEAH, I HAVE AN EVIL SPIRIT IN MY REFRIGERATOR.
COULD YOU HELP US GET RID OF IT?
HE SAYS FOR TWENTY BUCKS HE'LL PERFORM AN EXORCISM, AND FOR ANOTHER TEN HE'LL DEFROST THE FREEZER.
DEAL.
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Stylish
5 News, for short
9 Honest politician
12 Tramcar contents
13 Coach Chuck who won four Super Bowls
14 Last (Abbr.)
15 Unoriginal one
16 Burden
17 Afternoon affair
18 Sagacious
19 Blackbird
20 Part of a Batman costume
21 Violinist's need
23 Regret
25 Some ducks
28 Makes into confetti
32 Berate
33 Sun (Pref.)
34 Part of a pirate costume
36 Beat
37 Web address
38 Discoverer's cry
39 Apple intruder
42 Hooter
44 Dweeb
48 "Hail!"
49 Vacillate
50 Concept
51 Flop
52 Large brown seaweed
53 Gel in a petri dish
54 Type measures
55 Enrages
56 Muse's strings

DOWN
1 Talon
2 Arizona tribe
3 Caesar's fateful day
4 Equilibrium control
5 Extended family
6 Midday
7 Talents
8 Antiquated
9 Car
10 Lost intentionally
11 Listending abbr.
20 Formal
22 Sequence
24 "Yeah"
25 Kreskin's claim
26 Lemieux milieu
27 Pooch
29 Shade source
30 Conk out
31 Scale member
35 Sullen look
36 Coral producers
39 Test the waters
40 Egg
41 Cincinnati team
43 Corduroy ridge
45 Nervous
46 Back
47 Challenge
49 Go downhill fast

Solution time: 27 mins.

H	E	M	■	B	R	A	M	■	O	L	L	A
A	L	I	■	I	O	T	A	■	P	O	O	P
M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	■	E	A	S	E
■	■	A	D	O	S	■	■	I	N	F	E	R
B	O	R	O	N	■	B	O	D	E	■	■	■
A	B	E	L	■	S	U	P	E	R	M	A	N
L	O	T	■	B	O	N	U	S	■	I	R	E
D	E	S	S	E	R	T	S	■	S	N	I	T
■	■	■	L	E	E	S	■	C	L	O	D	S
B	E	G	U	N	■	■	S	H	U	T	■	■
A	V	I	D	■	M	I	N	E	R	A	L	S
K	I	N	G	■	E	R	O	S	■	U	S	A
E	L	S	E	■	N	A	B	S	■	R	U	G

Yesterday's answer 10-23

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12				■	13				■	14		
15				■	16				■	17		
18				■	19			■	20			
■	■	■	21	22		■	23	24		■	■	■
25	26	27				■	28			29	30	31
32					■	■	■	33				
34					35	■	36					
■	■	■	37			■	38			■	■	■
39	40	41		■	42	43			■	44	45	46	47
48			■	49						50			
51			■	52						53			
54			■	55						56			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Reynolds, 34; Weird Al Yankovic, 51; Dwight Yoakam, 54; Ang Lee, 56

Happy Birthday: You have to be a doer this year. Strong-willed, aggressive and proactive should be your strategy. Don't settle for anything less than what you want. You can show everyone how much you have to offer. It's your time to prove how valuable you are. Your numbers are 4, 8, 11, 26, 35, 39, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't stop believing in yourself. Discipline and hard work will get whatever chore you face done and out of the way. Don't be afraid to show your serious side and to bring partnership problems to the attention of the person confusing you. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Making an assumption will probably lead to trouble. You will be highly emotional and not likely to see clearly what's going on around you. Get things out in the open but do more listening and less talking. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): What you do for others will benefit you in the end. Love is on the rise but you must not get involved with someone who is already attached. Secrets will cause problems for you professionally and personally. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Get out with friends or plan a party or get-together with friends and family. Your generosity and kindness will be appreciated and reciprocated. Children are in the picture and will play a role in a decision you make regarding your future. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't take what someone says to heart. In the heat of the moment, emotions can take you in two different directions. Choose to be passionate and loving, not critical and cold, and you will overcome whatever obstacle you face. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Getting out or away from home will be enticing. Make plans to visit a friend or travel. Communication and learning something new should be your goal. A change in attitude will help you relate better to someone you are close to. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take everything in stride. There is no point in getting upset over past regrets. Listen to what's being said or offered but don't believe everything you are told. Empty promises are likely. Nothing is a bad as you think. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Socializing will bring about some interesting conversations and ideas that you can put into motion. Romance is highlighted, so plan evening events. If you want something to happen, you have to do your best to make it so. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Put a little effort into your home, family and surroundings before someone accuses you of being neglectful. A surprise may be made with good intentions but not everyone will be as excited about it as you. Protect your reputation. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You are well-positioned and should be able to make a move that will enhance your life and your future. Your professional and personal status will get a boost if you network. Mixing business with pleasure will pay off. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't make promises if you cannot deliver. A problem will develop in conversations you have. Be prepared to make some necessary changes. Adaptability will be the key to stabilization and greater security. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stop worrying so much and start doing what counts. It's not what everyone else wants, it's about what you are comfortable doing. Contracts, legal matters, settlements and financial gains are all highlighted. Put everything you've got into achieving your goals. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are caring and strive to do your best. You are affectionate, loyal and a good friend. You are curious and give everything you do an unusual spin.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3				8			
6					1	4		
			4			1	7	
		7					1	9
4	2					7		
	5	2			6			
		8	5					3
			2				4	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	7	3	8	2	9	5	1	6
1	9	6	7	5	4	8	3	2
5	2	8	6	1	3	4	7	9
2	1	5	9	4	8	3	6	7
9	3	4	1	7	6	2	8	5
6	8	7	2	3	5	9	4	1
8	6	2	3	9	7	1	5	4
7	5	9	4	8	1	6	2	3
3	4	1	5	6	2	7	9	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/22

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TODDLERS **Solution: 12 letters**

I	N	V	E	S	T	I	G	A	T	(E)	C	N	A	D
B	M	I	L	C	A	R	R	Y	E	(T)	J	B	P	Y
L	B	A	B	B	L	E	O	S	A	(U)	U	A	A	T
B	A	N	G	I	N	G	O	U	C	(C)	M	L	R	C
B	I	R	C	I	F	I	M	B	H	N	P	L	E	E
E	L	E	A	R	N	I	N	G	O	P	A	I	N	T
H	D	O	L	L	S	A	N	I	N	F	A	N	T	O
A	T	U	C	S	Y	O	T	D	A	D	D	Y	S	R
V	I	T	O	K	O	I	K	I	D	S	L	E	E	P
I	M	W	O	L	S	N	B	A	O	I	B	R	M	O
O	I	L	K	N	I	A	S	P	E	N	A	S	A	K
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P	A	R	K	H	T	S	P	R	U	B	Y	R	E	N
T	T	E	S	T	E	E	W	S	U	C	K	I	N	G
M	E	S	S	Y	R	O	P	Y	O	U	N	G	L	E

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Active, Babble, Baby, Ball, Banging, Baths, Behavior, Blocks, Burps, Busy, Carry, Climb, Crib, Cute, Daddy, Dance, Diapers, Dolls, Find, Games, Girls, Imagination, Imitate, Infant, Investigate, Jump, Kids, Learning, Loud, Messy, Paint, Parent, Park, Play, Poking, Protect, Room, Sing, Sitter, Sleep, Slow, Sons, Sucking, Sugar, Sweets, Talk, Teach, Test, Toys, Transition, Young

Yesterday's Answer: Sweating

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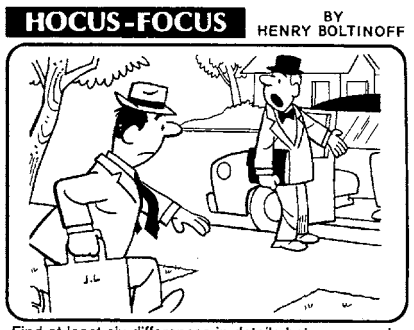
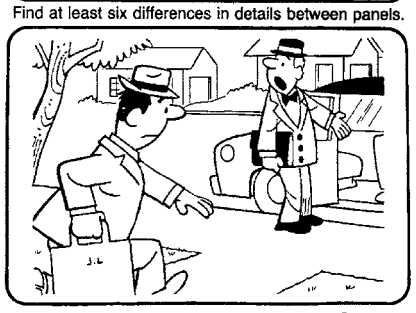
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Jacket has buttons. 2. House has been added. 3. Tie is missing. 4. Hat has white band. 5. Tree is missing. 6. Shoes are black.

Wishing Well®

5	4	6	7	8	5	8	6	2	6	4	6	3
L	G	B	N	Y	O	O	A	U	L	L	M	N
8	4	6	4	3	5	4	5	3	2	7	4	8
U	A	Y	D	E	V	F	E	W	S	E	O	W
4	8	3	4	5	4	3	4	6	4	3	6	3
R	I	S	O	O	T	A	H	D	E	B	A	O
8	4	7	4	3	6	5	3	8	3	7	3	8
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T	C	F	A	M	H	H	E	E	O	A	U	L
6	7	8	7	2	5	2	5	2	5	2	5	5
D	D	E	S	T	O	I	W	O	I	N	N	G

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Super Crossword

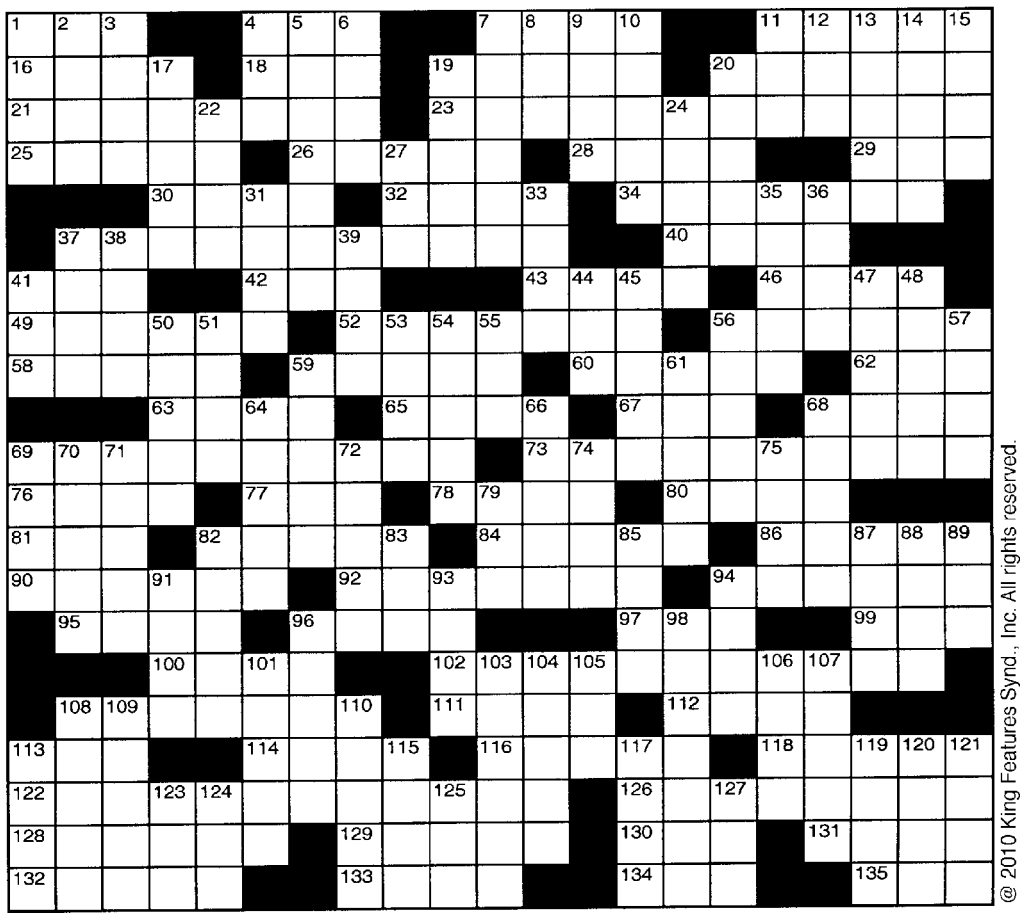
BY GEORGE!

ACROSS

1 Smash letters
4 __-de-lance
7 Valhalla villain
11 Ruined
16 Greenish yellow
18 Make like
19 Fathered a foal
20 Navy builder
21 Film directed by George Cukor
23 Opera by George Gershwin
25 "Aida" composer
26 Entire range
28 Turn about
29 Congeal
30 Always
32 Art deco designer
34 "__ Lee" ('59 hit)
37 Engineering feat by George Goethals
40 Scent
41 Petty or Poston
42 Funnyman Philips
43 Cry of concern
46 Nightingale prop
49 Tune
52 Strait
56 TV's "Family __"
58 Folklore figure
59 Active types
60 '68 Bee Gees hit
62 Spanish shout
63 Sheltered, at sea
65 Tiers
67 Producer Prince
68 Fiber source
69 Novel by George Orwell
73 Song by George Harrison
76 Lonely fish?
77 Max __ Sydow
78 Bailiwick
80 Hautboy
81 Sapporo sash
82 Gaggle gals
84 "The Creation" composer
86 Writer Runyon
90 Tongues of fire
92 Sign a check
94 Bronze feature
95 Paradise
96 Role for Liz
97 Wonderment
99 Eat in the evening
100 Rock's David Lee __
102 Role played by George Clooney
108 Bayreuth's locale
111 Scandinavian seaport
112 Drench
113 West ender?
114 Swenson of "Benson"
116 Data
118 Kinshasa's country
122 Play by George Bernard Shaw
126 Comic strip by George Herriman
128 Wagner heroine
129 Designer Perry
130 Sundown, to Shelley
131 Splinter group
132 Heavy blows
133 "Sad __" ('79 hit)
134 Wily
135 "I told you so!"

DOWN

1 Eastern European
2 Take a taxi
3 Actor Sharif
4 Remote
5 Bit of wit
6 Melodious McEntire
7 Ray of "GoodFellas"
8 Rink legend
9 Beer barrels
10 Pastoral poems
11 "The Burning __" ('84 film)
12 Research site
13 Corpulent
14 North Sea feeder
15 Heron's home
17 German port
19 Rebuff
20 "Slammin' Sam"
22 Parvati's spouse
24 Mustangs and Pintos
27 "__ culpa"
31 Part of EMT
33 Panache
35 Drives and drives?
36 "__ Spee"
37 Use a ewer
38 Snowballs, sometimes
39 Designer Chanel
41 Explosive initials
44 Author Wallace
45 Honolulu hello
47 Native New Zealander
48 Damascus dish
50 Censure
51 Grasso or Wilcox
53 Munich mister
54 Luncheonette lure
55 Australian st.
56 Wing it
57 Descartes or Levesque
59 Crusoe's creator
61 Boca __, FL
64 Sprites
66 Vow
68 It's heard in a herd
69 Beginning on
70 Clavell's "__ House"
71 Ancient epic
72 Photographer Adams
74 Robert of "Airplane!"
75 Fountain order
79 Sweater letter
82 Doge city?
83 Chemical ending
85 Bargain
87 Pine for
88 Burden
89 Short snooze
91 TV tycoon Griffin
93 Extinct bird
94 Cuban currency
96 Audrey Meadows' birthplace
98 Spendthrift
101 Clan
103 Egyptian deity
104 Arm bones
105 Political abbr.
106 Make fun of
107 Approves
108 Reckless
109 Type of pear
110 Think alike
113 Send out
115 With skill
117 Luau instruments
119 Turner and Pappas
120 Marathon
121 Kitchen addition?
123 Vintage
124 Sts.
125 Barley beverage
127 __ which way (carelessly)



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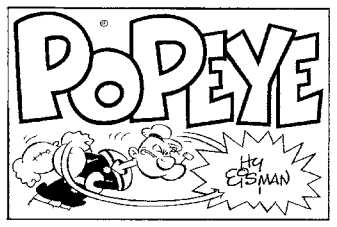
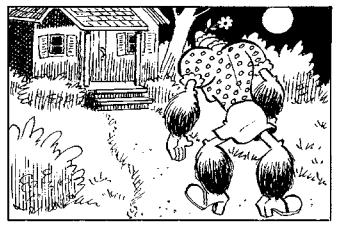
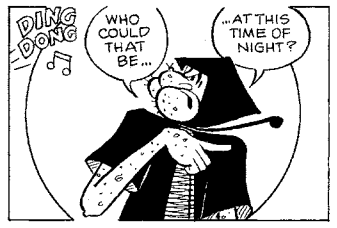
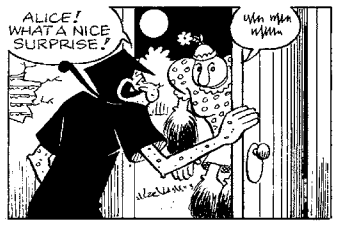
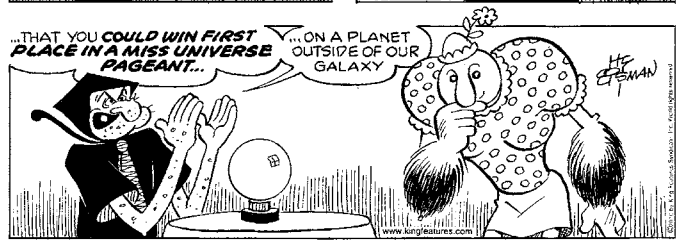




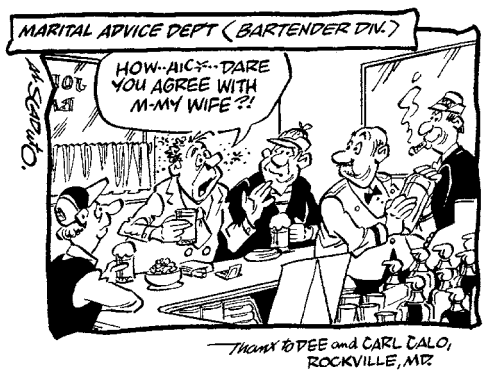


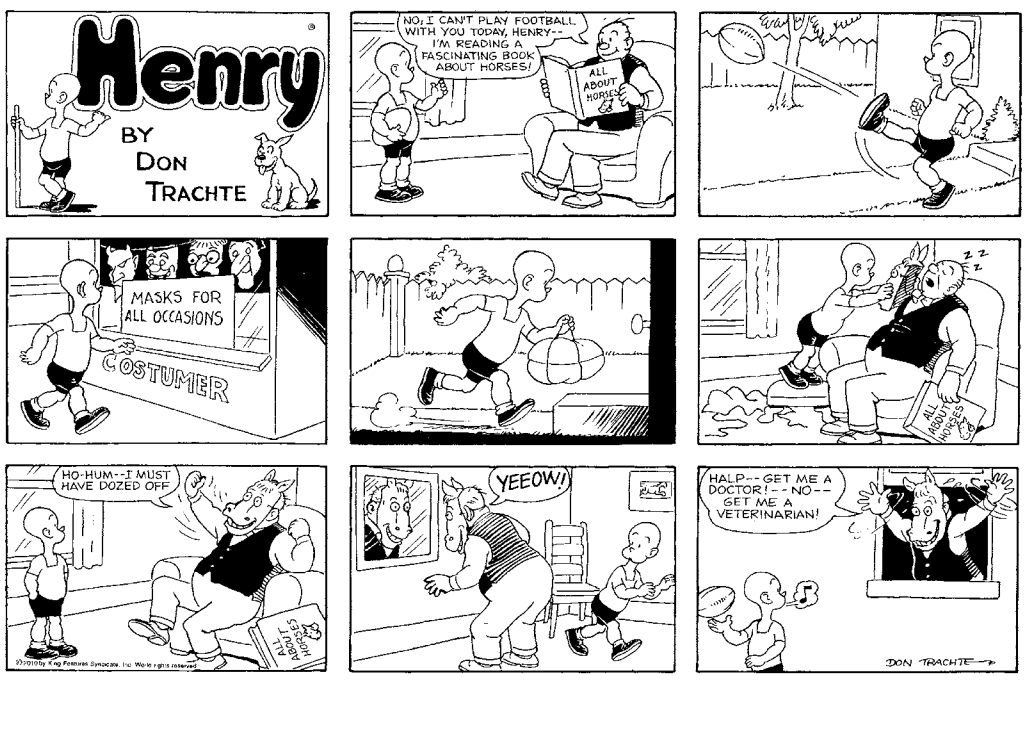




They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto

FIRST YOU GET YOUR EYES DILATED...THEN, WHEN YOU CAN'T FOCUS IN ON ANYTHING... WHAT'S DAFFIA, THE DOC'S RECEPTIONIST, DO?
HERE Y'ARE... CARE TO LOOK AT THE LATEST MAGAZINES?
CHA-WAA...? WHERE? UH... N-NO THANKS...
AL SCADUTO 2010 PHOTOLINE NET
Thanx to J. GARRISON, PORTLAND, ME.




Henry
BY DON TRACHTE
NO, I CAN'T PLAY FOOTBALL WITH YOU TODAY, HENRY-- I'M READING A FASCINATING BOOK ABOUT HORSES!
ALL ABOUT HORSES
MASKS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
COSTUMER
HO-HUM--I MUST HAVE DOZED OFF
YEEOW!
HALP--GET ME A DOCTOR!--NO--GET ME A VETERINARIAN!
DON TRACHTE

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. U.S. STATES: Which of the United States has the nickname "Equality State"?
2. MOVIES: What kind of creature is Pumbaa in "The Lion King"?
3. ART: What movement was American painter Roy Lichtenstein associated with?
4. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "macro" mean?
5. TELEVISION: Who was the star of "The Rockford Files"?
6. HISTORY: How long did the Spanish Civil War last?
7. INVENTIONS: When were pay telephones invented?
8. GAMES: In which game did Nintendo's Mario make his appearance?
9. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Turkey?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the original name of Rutgers University?

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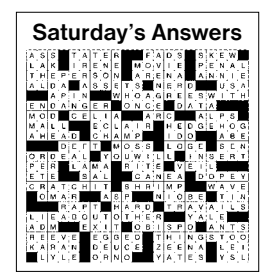
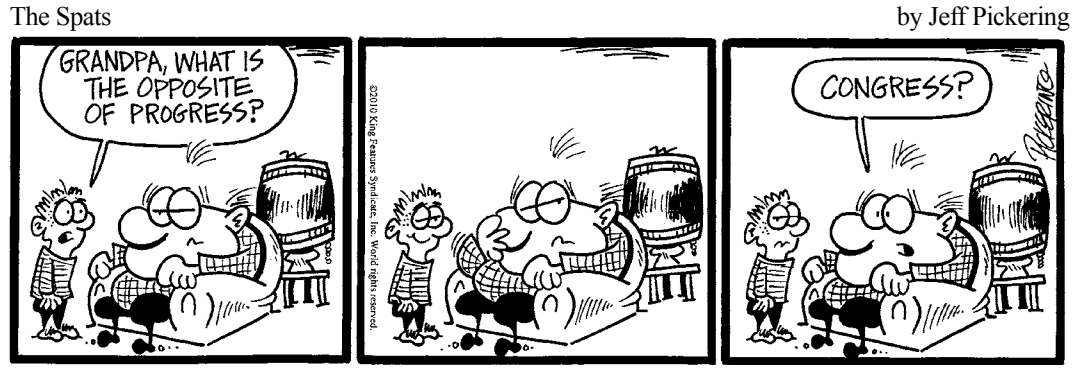
Answers

1. Wyoming
2. Warthog
3. Pop Art
4. Large or great
5. James Garner
6. Three years, 1936-39
7. 1889
8. Donkey Kong
9. Ankara
10. Queen's College

Saturday's Answers



The Spats — by Jeff Pickering



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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Private, quiet, convenient, Capitol Hill location
Like new, 5-bedroom, 4-bathroom
2,100 sq ft, 2-story
Great ocean and mountain views
Separate garage with Guest quarters
Huge wrap-around deck with cool breezes
Energy-efficient central air conditioning
Jacuzzi spa, major appliances, Corian counter tops
UV Water treatment system
Ready for solar or wind generator
Paved road access – No four wheel needed!
Secluded child-friendly neighborhood
Beautiful orchids, heliconia and torch ginger
Large backyard and play areas
Mature fruit trees, avocado, mango, soursap, guava
Appraised at $268,000
Offered at $227,000, neg.
Available October 1, 2010
Contact: richard.brostrom@gmail.com

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FOR LEASE - RESIDENTIAL

4 bedroom, 2 bathroom house and lot for lease. Located in Beach Road, Garapan. Call 285-0018

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Year must be 2000 & above. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

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USSP Club presents: Year end-ecstatic, jolly, Happy Hour Special. Beers 99¢! Chilled shots $3.00 W/1-hour free game of pool. 5pm daily

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Starting as low as... $25.00 without Insurance
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$100 Security Deposit Required
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Some conditions may apply

CLICK IT OR TICKET
NIGHT AND DAY

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Find today's solution in this section

Halladay comes through, Phils stay alive in NLCS

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Philadelphia scored three runs in the third against San Francisco ace Tim Lincecum(notes) with help from an error by Aubrey Huff, and Roy Halladay(notes) escaped a couple of jams to help the Phillies maintain a 3-2 lead over the Giants after six innings in Game 5 of the NL championship as they tried to stave off elimination.

San Francisco fans packed the park early, a night after the Giants took a 3-1 series lead on Juan Uribe's game-ending sacrifice fly. The Giants had not lost a potential series clincher at home since losing 1-0 to the New York Yankees in Game 7 of the 1962 World Series.

The fans looked to celebrate the team's fourth pennant since moving West in 1958. When the Giants took a 1-0 lead in the first inning against Phillies ace Roy Halladay, that anticipation only built.

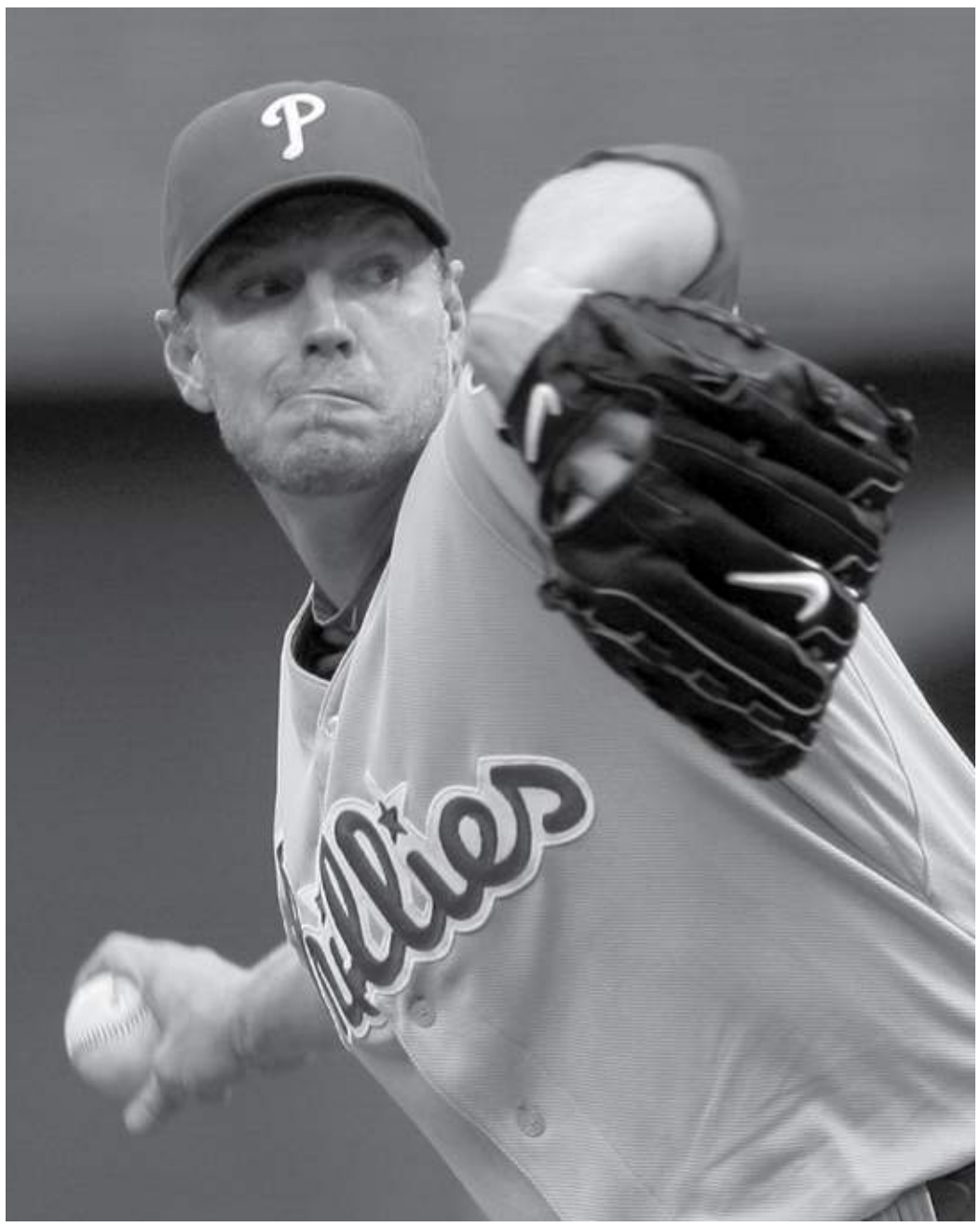
The crowd was quieted with the long top of the third inning. Raul Ibanez, back in the lineup after a night off, singled to stop an 0-for-15 slump and get the Phillies started.

Lincecum then hit Carlos Ruiz with a pitch—the record-tying fourth time Ruiz has been hit this postseason. Halladay laid down a bunt that catcher Buster Posey picked up right near the plate. Posey threw to third, but Pablo Sandoval could not get back to the bag for the force. Halladay did not run, thinking it was a foul ball, and was easily thrown out at first.

Shane Victorino followed with a hard grounder to first that hit off Huff's glove and into shallow center field, scoring two runs. Placido Polanco followed with an RBI single that made it 3-1.

The Giants got a run back in the fourth when Pat Burrell and Cody Ross hit back-to-back doubles with one out. It was Ross' fifth extra-base hit of the series, including two homers in Game 1 against Halladay. The Giants didn't get anything else that inning as Ross was thrown out at third by Jayson Werth trying to tag up on a fly ball to right.

San Francisco put runners on first and third with two outs in the fifth, but Huff was thrown out at first on a dribbler in front of the plate. The Giants got two runners again in the sixth, but Halladay struck out Uribe to escape that jam.



AP

Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Roy Halladay throws during the first inning of Game 5 of baseball's National League Championship Series against the San Francisco Giants Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010, in San Francisco.

Philadelphia was trying to become the first NL team to win three straight pennants since St. Louis in 1942-44. Only 11 teams have overcome that deficit in a best-of-seven series, with the Red Sox being the most recent, in the 2007 ALCS against Cleveland.

This was a rematch of former Cy Young winners, with Lincecum having outpitched Halladay in San Francisco's 4-3 win in Philadelphia last Saturday.

Halladay allowed four runs in the opener, falling to 0-3 with a 6.66 ERA in his career against the Giants. That's the worst ERA against any opponent, and San Francisco and the Chicago Cubs are the only two teams he has started against but not beaten in his career.

This marked just the third time all year that Halladay within 10 days faced a team that scored four runs against him again. The previous two times, he combined for 17 scoreless innings to beat Cincinnati and the Mets.

That pattern did not repeat itself as Halladay started by walking Andres Torres—the first leading off a game against him this season. Torres went to third on a hit-and-run single up the middle by Freddy Sanchez.

Pitching coach Rich Dubee came out for a mound visit after Halladay fell behind 2-0 to Huff. On the next pitch, first baseman Ryan Howard made a diving catch of a line drive for the first out. It looked as if Halladay had a chance to get out of the inning unscathed when Posey hit a slow roller to second.

Chase Utley tried to scoop the ball and make the tag in one motion to start what would have been a difficult double play. But he was unable to get the ball cleanly and had to settle for just the forceout, allowing Torres to score from third.

Halladay allowed only one run over the next five innings as he started to find his groove.

Lincecum retired 11 straight batters after his third inning trouble. He had six strikeouts through six innings, including three against Howard. Lincecum's 28 strikeouts in his first three postseason starts are three shy of tying Bob Gibson's record.

Rangers remain loose, confident against Yankees

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The Texas Rangers have returned to their own clubhouse, where the only trophies are the two deer heads mounted on the wall courtesy of Josh Hamilton.

Back home, where they are 1-3 this postseason, needing one win to make it to their first World Series.

If the Rangers are going to keep going where they've never been before, they have to win the AL championship series against the New York Yankees at home. The first of their two chances is Game 6 on Friday night.

"Obviously, we wanted to finish what we started in Game 5. If there's a plus, we get a chance to finish the series in front of our fans. They deserve it," said outfielder David Murphy, who has scored a series-high six runs. "It's definitely more fun this way."

Texas clinched its first AL West title in 11 years on the road, in Oakland with a week to play in the regular season. Then, with a 2-0 series lead before losing both first-round games at home, the Rangers won the deciding Game 5 of the AL division series and celebrated at Tampa Bay.

They missed their first chance to end the ALCS, when the defending champion Yankees got an early lead and went on to a 7-2 victory Wednesday in Game 5 to force the best-of-seven series back to Texas. The Rangers have a 3-2 lead.

Even with the enormity of what they are trying to accomplish, and with a $200 million-plus team built to win another championship on the other side, Michael Young insists nothing has changed for the Rangers. The team's longest-tenured player said they are as loose and confident as they have been since opening the season.

"This team does as good a job as I've seen at staying loose and being competitive and getting after it as any team I've ever seen," Young said Thursday. "We'll come in (Friday), the music will be on, we'll be loose, we'll be ready to go."

So will the Yankees, who have won 27 World Series titles and 40 pennants, though they haven't overcome a 3-1 postseason deficit since 1958.

"You try to win one game, that's all you can do. We have a lot of confidence in ourselves, just like I'm sure they have confidence in their team," Yankees captain Derek Jeter said. "You have to take every game like it's a Game 5 or a Game 7. Then if you're in these kind of situations, nothing ever changes."

The Yankees won the ALCS opener at Rangers Ballpark, overcoming a late 5-0 deficit for a 6-5 victory last Friday. Texas responded by taking the next three—winning a postseason game at home for the first time before consecutive victories at Yankee Stadium.

AP

Texas Rangers pitchers Frank Francisco, left, Alexi Ogando, right rear, and Neftali Feliz watch baseball practice Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010, in Arlington, Texas, as the Rangers prepared for Friday's Game 6 of the AL championship series against the New York Yankees

Now it's back to Rangers Ballpark, where about three dozen Lone Star flags whip in the wind high above center field and more than 50,000 fans will gather under Friday night lights that in the Texas fall are usually reserved for high school football.

"These fans are going to be fired up. It will be like a football atmosphere out here, especially with the Cowboys not doing much," Rangers outfielder Jeff Francoeur said. "We're replacing them for a little bit, so it will be a great atmosphere and the fans will be behind us."

It is a Game 2 pitching rematch of Rangers right-hander Colby Lewis and Phil Hughes, who gave up 10 hits (seven for extra bases) and seven runs in four innings. Hughes had allowed only three hits in 15 1-3 scoreless innings during his previous three games at Texas.

"We have utmost confidence in Phil. He's done such a tremendous job and I know he's chomping at the bit to get back out there," Nick Swisher said. "He definitely has a chance to redeem himself and we're right there behind him."

Lewis has a chance to deliver the biggest victory in Rangers history after re-signing with his original team last winter.

Drafted by the Rangers in 1999, the last season they made the playoffs until now, Lewis won 10 games as a rookie in 2003 but tore his rotator cuff early the next season. The right-hander missed all of 2005 recovering from surgery, then spent time in the Detroit and Oakland organizations before pitching the last two seasons in Japan.

"It's a great feeling," Lewis said. "To tell me that I'd be in this situation two years ago when I was thinking that, you know, finishing up my career in Japan, I would have told you you'd be nuts. But it's a situation where I'm totally grateful for it."

Lewis limited New York to two runs over 5 2-3 innings in Game 2 after throwing five scoreless innings in his postseason debut against Tampa Bay.

And if Lewis can't get it done, the Rangers have Cliff Lee waiting to pitch Game 7 on Saturday night.

"After Game 1 everybody wanted to count us out. It was like, 'They can't come back from that.' Anybody that's been around us and this group of guys realizes that we're loose, easygoing," Francoeur said. "If you would have told us that we could have Cliff going in

NBA wants player salary costs to drop by a third

NEW YORK (AP)—NBA commissioner David Stern said Thursday there was no quantifiable progress in collective bargaining talks over the summer, and the league revealed it is seeking a reduction in player salary costs by about one-third.

Stern said the league wants player costs to drop $750-800 million. Deputy commissioner Adam Silver said the NBA spends about $2.1 billion annually in player salaries and benefits.

"We would like to get profitable, have a return on investment," Stern said. "There's a swing of somewhere in the neighborhood of $750 to $800 million that we would like to change. That's our story and we're sticking with it."

Stern and Silver spoke after completing two days of meetings with league owners, who are seeking major changes to the current CBA that expires June 30. Silver said the league has told the union that owners are in a "diseconomic situation," with projected league-wide losses of about $340-350 million this season.

Though season ticket sales are up, both insisted that no matter how well the league does at the box office, it won't change the fact that an overhaul is necessary to a system in which the players receive 57 percent of basketball-related income.

AP

National Basketball Association commissioner David Stern listens to a question during a news conference in New York, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010.

"Even though we reported we have record season ticket sales over the summer and otherwise very robust revenue generation, because of the built-in cost of the system, it's virtually impossible for us to move the needle in terms of our losses," Silver said.

"There's no chance we can change the fundamental economics regardless of our success because it just costs us too much money to generate those sales."

The league and union began meeting last summer, and Stern said the sides had their most recent discussion in a small group this week. But they remain far apart on talks toward a new deal, raising fears of a lockout next summer.

"I couldn't give you any listing numerically or in word form of progress," Stern said. "But there seems to be a mutual determination to push and probe and do and discuss, because there's an increasing understanding on both sides of what the risk of not making a deal entails, and that this is actually palpable, but not quantifiable. So we're very much engaged in it."

The players association has responded to the league's claims of massive losses by calling for expanded revenue sharing among owners. Stern and Silver said the owners agree it's coming, but that it will arrive in conjunction with a new deal.

And while there's still time, Silver - the lead negotiator for the league - acknowledged that business could suffer is progress is not made soon. Ticket holders and sponsors will have decisions to make early next year without knowing if there's going to be a 2011-12 season.

"Before you know it, we're going to be at the beginning of 2011, and it's going to begin having an impact then and uncertainty is bad news for any business," Silver said.

Stern agreed with union executive director Billy Hunter's recent statement that February's All-Star weekend is an unofficial deadline to know whether there's going to be a work stoppage, saying, "We'll have a pretty good idea how good or not good things are by the end of February."

Also, Stern said the decision to call more technical fouls under the respect for the game guidelines won't be an issue much longer. Players are now whistled for making overt gestures or complaining too long to referees, and some are confused by how quickly they've been penalized during the preseason.

The union threatened legal action, but Stern said doesn't think it will reach that point.

"The players will do more adjusting than the referees, but there will be some referee adjustments as well," Stern said. "I don't think it's going to be a problem."

NFL gets it right on suspensions

NEW YORK (AP)—NFL gets it right on suspensions

Despite the way defensive players went on the offensive the last few days protesting the NFL's plan to suspend players for illegal hits, the league did something necessary and long overdue.

Argue all you want about changing the game fundamentally. Go ahead and cite statistics such as personal fouls being slightly down this year—that's misleading because, projected through the season, they will soar to about 50 more penalties than last year.

But also take note not only of the carnage of last Sunday, but of the number of concussions, head and neck injuries listed on injury reports through Thursday: 22 players listed at some point this season with a concussion, 19 with head injuries, 16 with neck injuries.

There's some overlap in those numbers as players suffered both, and not all head injuries are concussions. Still, those are serious numbers, and they include some of football's most recognizable players: Chris Johnson, DeMarcus Ware, Jason Witten, Asante Samuel, Jay Cutler, Joseph Addai, Mathias Kiwanuka.

Yes, it took a rash of flagrant fouls last weekend—James Harrison on Mohamed Massaquoi, Brandon Meriweather on Todd Heap, Dunta Robinson on DeSean Jackson— to really ratchet up the discipline. And the problems go deeper than simply wanting to "blow up an opponent," as NFL operations chief Ray Anderson puts it.

There seems to be a line of thought among some players that hard hits lead to "SportsCenter" clips, higher profiles and, eventually, big pay days. If they are clean tackles, then fine. If they are of the head-hunting variety, hefty discipline is warranted.

"If I get a chance to knock somebody out, I'm going to knock them out and take what they give me," Dolphins linebacker Channing Crowder said. "They give me a helmet, I'm going to use it."

Use it the way Meriweather did and Crowder won't be wearing a helmet or a uniform on Sundays for awhile.

"Illegal hits to the head of an opponent will not be tolerated," Anderson says in a video sent to the 32 teams this week. "A player is accountable for what he hits. Illegal techniques must be removed from our game."

Actually, from all games on every level, and therein lies a dilemma: NFL players claim they have been taught to hit a certain way since they were young, and are continuing along that path.

What if the way they have been taught has been illegal?

Anderson touched on that earlier this week. Dozens of players mentioned it after the league ramped up punishment for illegal hits.

"The fundamentally old way of wrapping up and tackling seems to have faded away," Anderson said. "A lot of the increase is from hits to blow guys up. That has become a more popular way of doing it. Yes, we are concerned they are getting away from the fundamentals of tackling, and maybe it has been coached that way. We're going to have to look into talking to our coaches."

Those coaches—all coaches, really, from youth football on up—will deny supporting flagrant fouls, leading with the helmet or trying to injure an opponent. Yet that mentality seems to exist in the NFL; Crowder is no lone wolf. And pretty much everything that happens in the NFL trickles down to other levels of the game.

Harrison apologized Thursday for saying after the win over the Browns that he tries to hurt people on the field. Other players didn't make the kind of claim Harrison did Sunday, but they emphasized all week that the league was handcuffing them.

"I don't want anyone to get hurt like that, but at the same time, what our coaches and every coach in this league tells his player is you want to separate the man from the ball," Chicago cornerback Charles Tillman said. "You want to hit him hard. You all get jacked up for that."

The message from the league is: "Get jacked up all you want, just keep it legal."

As Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a web chat Thursday:

"For decades we have made changes to the game and eliminated techniques that have made the game safer, and the reaction has been similar—that it will change the game forever. You can look at changes such as removing clothesline (hits), chop blocks, crack-back block, and horse-collar tackles, that have all improved the safety of the game. The game continues to flourish."

Goodell, Anderson and, hopefully the players, recognize there is more to do. They could even take their cue from hockey.

When hockey executives held a two-day summit on concussions at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., this week, more than 250 doctors, experts and hockey officials discussed ways to cut down on concussions, especially in youth hockey. Those meetings received infinitesimal attention compared to Sunday's NFL action - and the league's subsequent reaction.

Such a seminar is a terrific idea and something the NFL should pursue. No sport is watched more closely for head and neck injuries than football. That places a tremendous responsibility on the NFL. It lived up to that responsibility this week, and must carry it further.

Harrison returns to Steelers after cooling-off day

PITTSBURGH (AP)—That retirement talk by James Harrison didn't last nearly long enough for some NFL quarterbacks.

The three-time Pro Bowl linebacker resumed practicing Thursday with the Pittsburgh Steelers, one day after threatening to retire because of the NFL's stricter enforcement of dangerous hits.

Harrison was fined $75,0000 on Tuesday for a helmet hit on Browns wide receiver Mohamed Massaquoi, making him one of three NFL players fined at least $50,000 for flagrant hits last weekend. On Wednesday, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell followed up the fines by releasing a memo emphasizing significant penalties will be imposed upon players who strike an opponent in the head or neck in violation of existing rules.

Harrison, arguing the restrictions won't allow him to play football as he's always played it, met with coach Mike Tomlin on Wednesday to discuss the changes. Tomlin decided to give Harrison a cooling-off day and sent him home from practice.

Harrison's teammates didn't take his threat to retire seriously, saying he enjoys playing too much to quit during the second season of a $51.2 million contract. Harrison agreed with that in a statement issued by the team.

"I have come to the decision that I cannot and will not let the league office stop me from playing the game that I love," Harrison said.

Harrison did not talk to reporters before or after practice. The team said the statement would be his only comments.

"I will continue to play the game with the same passion, intensity and focus with which I have always played and let the chips fall where they may," Harrison said. "I have never give up, quit or walked away from anything in my life and I am not about to start now."

Too bad for the Patriots' Tom Brady, who joked life for NFL quarterbacks would be easier if Harrison retired.

Steelers safety Ryan Clark also found some levity in the situation. Asked about the notoriously intense Harrison's mood upon returning to the team, Clark said Harrison isn't "a fluffy person" even when he's in a good mood.

"He's fine," Clark said. "Obviously it's a tough situation and he was able to handle it the way he needed to. We're glad to have him back."

In his statement, Harrison said player safety must be emphasized, but he argued again his hit on Massaquoi was permissible under NFL rules. Tomlin also said the hit was legal.

"I feel the real reason for the fine was the statement I made after the game wherein I said that I try to hurt people, not injure them," Harrison said in the statement. "In the same sentence, I attempted to clarify my meaning. But I understand that my comments leave a lot open to interpretation. The statement was not well-thought out and I did not adequately convey my meaning. I apologize for making that statement and I want it to be known that I have never and would never intentionally try to injure any player."

Browns center Alex Mack suggested Harrison should be worried about his own health. Mack said Harrison's concussion-causing hits Sunday on Browns wide receivers Massaquoi and Joshua Cribbs weren't isolated.

"If you watch the game film, he was doing that to everyone on every play. People would be on the ground and he would try to spear them," Mack said. "There's a play on film where (running back) Peyton Hillis is tackled and he comes up and spears him. It's like you're being cheap, you're being dirty."

Dirty, he said, and dangerous.

"You're ruining your own brain and you're damaging other people," Mack said. "It's your brain. You need that a lot."

Steelers nose tackle Chris Hoke insisted the 2008 AP NFL Defensive Player of the Year is not a dirty player who lives off cheap hits.

"That's not James, that's a misunderstanding," Hoke said. "He goes out and plays hard. There's not a dirty ounce in his body. ... It's all about hard work for him. He's one of the first guys in here in the morning and one of the last to leave. He's a class act. It's good to see him back because he's a humongous part of our team."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NMIFA YOUTH LEAGUE STANDINGS

BOYS U14

Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
MP United FC	4	4	0	0	22	3	19	12
Paire FC-Red	4	3	1	0	14	4	10	10
Paire FC-Black	3	1	0	2	14	6	8	3
Matansa FC	3	1	0	2	7	8	-1	3
Tan Holdings FC	3	1	0	2	3	6	-3	3
Shirley's FC	4	1	0	3	1	23	-22	3
Independent FC	3	0	1	2	2	13	-11	1

GIRLS U14

Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matansa FC	3	3	0	0	21	1	20	9
Paire FC	3	1	1	1	6	7	-1	4
MP United FC	3	1	1	1	4	5	-1	4
Tan Holdings FC	3	0	0	3	1	19	-18	0

BOYS U18

MP United FC	4	3	1	0	19	3	16	10
Paire FC	4	2	1	1	14	5	9	7
Independent FC	4	1	0	3	8	16	-8	3
Matansa FC	4	1	0	3	3	20	-17	3

Chagi Fan, One Shot stay on top

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Buddies Bar & Grill's Chagi Fan and VFW's One Shot are in first place in the 2010 Saipan Electronic Dart Association League's Kingfisher and Chichirika C divisions after last Wednesday's games.

In the Kingfisher C division, Chagi Fan, with its 98 wins, 67 losses and a 0.59 winning percentage, is 11 games in front of sister team Black Pearls (87-78), while Charlie's Sabalu (86-79) is in third place. Notables include a 158 High-In by Jun Manaloto of D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Sang and the Gang and a High-Out of 153 by Sabalu's Ray Aguon.

In the Chichirika division, One Shot holds a record of 99 wins, 66 losses and a 0.60 winning rate. It has a four-game lead over Buddies' Kagman-1 (95-70), while Jonny's Night Hawks (88W-77L) are all alone in the third spot. Notables include a High-In of 120 by One Shot's Kevin Maratita.

CONTRIBUTED PHYO

Team Chagi Fan, pictured here in a file photo at home bar Buddies Bar & Grill, holds an 11-game lead in the Kingfisher C division standings after last Wednesday's 10-5 road win over USSP's Slow Hand.

KINGFISHER

Lucky Shots 8, Sang and the Gang 7
Both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches a game of wild cricket, a partners 501 contest, and a pair of cricket matches before Lucky Shots swept both partners baseball games for the automatic victory. Sang and the Gang took the final team 1001 match. Lucky Shot's Damien Spis and Mario Lisua each won five out of their six matches.

Black Pearls 8, Sabalu 7
Sablau swept all four singles 301 matches for what looked like a promising start, but the Black Pearls answered back and swept both wild cricket games and both partners 501 contests. The Black Pearls kept the momentum and won three of the four cricket matches and a partners baseball game to secure the automatic victory. Sabalu took the final team 1001 match.

Chagi Fan 10, Slow Hand 5
Chagi Fan swept all four singles 301 matches and both wild cricket games to build a commanding lead. Then they won a partners 501 contest and a pair of cricket matches, and took the final team 1001 match after Slow Hand swept both partners baseball games. Chagi Fan's Jesse Borja and Ken Villagomez each won five of their six matches.

CHICHIRIKA

World-V 9, Kagman-1 6
Both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches before World-V swept both partners wild cricket games for the early lead. Then World-V won a partners 501 game, a pair of cricket matches, and a partners baseball game for the automatic victory. World-V also took the final team 1001 match.

One Shot 9, Oh! MG 6
After both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches, One Shot swept both partners wild cricket games to pull ahead. Then One Shot won a partners 501 contest and three of the four cricket matches for the automatic victory. VFW's Oh! MG swept both partners baseball games, while One Shot took the final team 1001 match.

Night Hawks 9, Gaiana-C 6
Both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches, a game of wild cricket, and a partners 501 contest before the Night Hawks swept all four cricket matches for the automatic victory. Bar Gaia's, Gaiana-C swept both partners baseball games and the Night Hawks took the final team 1001 match.

DPH *oh Yeah! edges Enforcers*

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

DPH Oh Yeah led three other teams in the winners circle in last week's games in the 2010 Bud Light Lime Inter-Government Dart League.

The visiting DPS Oh Yeah! pulled off an impressive win 8-7 win over DPS Enforcers despite competing with only three players for the first half of the match. They won three of the four singles 301 matches and a wild cricket game for a brief lead, but the Enforcers battled back and swept both partners Burma Half-It and both partners 501 contests. A fourth player showed up late for Oh Yeah! and all four member swept the four cricket matches in the clutch for the automatic victory. The Enforcers took the final team 1001 match.

Na'Gupu 9, Trouble Shooters 6
At Wild Bill's, Na'Gupu swept all four singles 301 matches, won a wild cricket game and swept both partners Burma Half-It contests for a big lead. Then after the trouble Shooters swept both partners 501 games, Na'Gupu won a pair of cricket matches. The Trouble Shooters took the final team 1001 match.

DYS Atdit 10, PSS South Side 5
At Bar Gaia, both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches before visiting Atdit struck first and swept both wild cricket games. Then after both teams split a game of partners Burma Half-It and a partners 501 contest, Atdit won three of the four cricket matches for the automatic victory and went on to add the final team 1001 game.

AG Piligro 11, NMC PROA 4
At Buddies Bar & Grill, home team AG Piligro won three of the four singles 301 matches, won a wild cricket game, and swept both partners Burma Half-It contests for the early lead. AG Piligro won a partners 501 game and three cricket matches for the automatic victory, and added a final team 1001 game to its total.

G-STARS

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percentage shots with their offense focused down low.

The G-Stars' Big 3 made up of Manalili, Rabauliman, and Devero, outscored the Sonics' trio of Ajoste, Galarse, and Tristan Ecalnea, 46-33.

G-Stars 61 – Manalili 18, Rabauliman 18, De Vero 10, Concepcion 4, Palacios 4, Benavente 2, Kenty 2, Palacios 2, Biara 1.

Sonics 51 – Ajoste 13, Ecalnea 10, Galarse 10, Cadiang 4, Sula 4, Villanueva 3, Palacios 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-15, 25-25, 39-36, 61-51.

MARGARITO

From Page 28

can handle them."

Told that Pacquiao had stepped up his training in Baguio City, Arum replied: "Well he better step up his training because this guy (Margarito) poses some very, very unique dangers."

Arum said Margarito "is big, is strong and will push Manny into the ropes and the corners and Manny has to be able to utilize that incredible speed that he has together with his ability to punch with both hands."

Arum added that he won't talk to Pacquiao about how good Margarito has looked in training "because there are seven different people talking to Manny giving him words of caution."

Arum and Dena were joined by Pacquiao's wife Jinkee, friends Jake Joson and Miles Roces, and nine others when they flew to Baguio aboard the plane of Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

Pacquiao sparred for a total of nine rounds against Glen Tapia and Michael Medina last weekend.

Though Roach said Pacquiao's "getting better every day" the four-time Trainer of the Year said his prized ward was better last Friday.

Asked to comment on Margarito's edge in height and reach, Pacquiao said: "Don't worry there is always the body."

Pacquiao stressed that he was "mentally focused and not worried that he is facing a much bigger opponent."

He announced he is leaving for Los Angeles on Saturday but has not decided on whether to rent a special plane to fly his entourage, friends, and journalists from the city to Dallas a few days before the fight against Margarito. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

BADMINTON

From Page 28

and drills done before games and during practices.

The Oceania official said bringing badminton to school is one of the most effective ways in promoting the sports and discovering and honing talents.

"In school, you have everyone in one place so it is not hard to find a common venue to teach badminton. Teaching players how to play the sport in a school setting is very advantageous, as you it is just like having a discussion in a classroom," Bleaken said.

"It is also important for development manager like me to work with teachers/school coaches, as when we leave, we have someone (teacher) that will continue to train the students," she added.

Calcena agreed with Bleaken's observation, saying teachers only teach students how to play a certain sport based on personal experience. However, if an expert comes here and show teachers the proper and best way to play badminton, it will be easier for coaches/teachers to help improve the students' skills.

"As P.E. teachers who have limited knowledge in developing athletes' skills, we have to take advantage of the presence of experts visiting the island. Having development officers on Saipan helps us teachers and students understand the sport better," Calcena said.

Mt. Carmel student Mai Nakajima said she is happy to have attended the clinic, as this gives him an idea how to become a better player.

"Badminton is a good sport and if you just learn how to use your skills and speed properly, you will become a good better player," the MCS senior said.

Bleaken will only stay on Saipan for three days and the final day of her visit will focus on conducting skills and coaching clinics for members of Northern Marianas Badminton Association and other interested individuals.

The Badminton Oceania official was also scheduled to attend the opening ceremony of the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament last night at the REM Centre in Gualo Rai.

Bleaken was the guest speaker in the opening rites, while Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White was invited to do the ceremonial serve.

MP UNITED

From Page 28

With the win, MP United kept the lead in the seven-team field, ahead by one win against Paire Red. Matansa is in the middle of the pack with its 1-0-2 win-draw-loss record.

MP United also padded its total goal scored to 22, while Matansa has gained only seven goals in three games.

Paire Black 12, Shirley's Coffee Shop
In the second game in the boys U14, Paire Black crushed Shirley's Coffee Shop, 12-0.

Jeff Cheon scored four goals for Paire Black, Joel Fruit made three, and Delin Reusora, Regis Perez, Jonathan Villagomez, Jonrey Gilles, and Ethan Dickinson tallied one goal apiece.

Paire Black gained its first win in three games and brought its total goal scored so far at 14.

Shirley's absorbed its third loss in four games and has earned only one goal.

Paire Red 2, Independents 2
The last match of the day between Paire Red and Independents resulted in a 2-2 draw.

Hunter Jewell posted a pair of goals for Paire Red, while Wesley Emul and Norman Detang had one each for Independents.

Paire Red is in second place in the team standings with its 3-1-0 slate. It has collected 14 goals. Independents is winless in three games and has scored only two goals to remain at the bottom of the field.

Tan Holdings FC drew a bye in Week 4 of the fall league.

Meanwhile, results of the girls U14 division games were unavailable at press time.

BOYS U18

MP United 2, Paire 2
The second round meeting of MP United and Paire ended in a 2-2 draw.

Jin Han Yoon and Dae Min Jeon hit one goal apiece for MP United, while Vincent Palacios and Timothy Tawanpiy also scored one goal each for Paire to force a deadlock.

MP United, which won its first meeting against Paire, still leads the U18 division with its 3-1-0 slate. The league-leading team has earned 19 goals so far.

Paire has tallied 14 goals in four games and holds a 2-1-1 mark.

Independents 8, Matansa 2
In the other boys U18 game, Independents topped Matansa, 8-2.

Charles McEntee collected four goals for Independents, David Young made two, and two other players added one apiece. One of Matansa's two goals came from Kim Min Woo.

Independents nailed its first victory in four games, tying Matansa's win-loss record. Independents was without a goal in its first three games before finding its rhythm at the start of the second round.

Halladay comes through, Phils stay alive in NLCS

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Badminton clinic draws more than 100 students

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Badminton Oceania regional development manager Nadia Bleaken conducted a mini clinic at the Marianas High School and Mt. Carmel School yesterday with more than 100 students attending the event.

Bleaken, who arrived on Saipan yesterday morning, started her school tour at MHS and met with about 100 students at the MHS Gymnasium and then in the afternoon went to the Mt. Carmel Gymnasium to hold a one-hour session with the 14 MCS students and P.E. teacher Rommel Calcena.

The clinic saw Bleaken teaching students the basics of the sport, like footwork, different shots (back hand, forehand, and smash), serving techniques,

See BADMINTON on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Badminton Oceania regional development manager Nadia Bleaken shows Mt. Carmel School senior students the proper footwork when making a return during a mini clinic at the MCS Gymnasium yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Paire Red striker tries to pull away from an Independents defender during their game in the boys U14 division of the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

MP United, Paire Black win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United extended its winning run to four after downing Matansa Football Club, 5-2, in the boys U14 division of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League last weekend at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Chris Park had a hat-trick for MP United, while Jehn Joyner and Dakota Hall nailed one goal apiece to keep the team's record clean. Matansa's two goals came from Joseph De Leon Guerrero and Jireh Yobech.

See MP UNITED on Page 27

G-Stars hand Sonics first loss

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The G-Stars shone against the Sonics beating them, 61-51, during the U19 game in the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the win, the G-Stars improved their record to an even 2-2 mark, while the Sonics absorbed their first loss in four games, leaving the Sparks (4-0) the solo leader in the nine-team field.

Ed Manalili and Marvin Rabauliman top-scored for the G-Stars, firing 18 points each. They tallied 10 apiece in the fourth quarter, helping the G-Stars turn a close 39-36 lead to a 10-point win.

Besides getting enough production from Manalili and Rabauliman, the G-Stars notched the victory after winning the battle for rebounds down low and showing the ability to break the Sonics' defensive pressure in the second half.

With the Sonics' trapping defense working early, they led by a deuce at the end of the first period, 15-13. The game was close in the opening period, as both teams remained patient and felt each other out.

The Sonics' Bryan Ajoste and Leo Galarse combined for 13 points in the first period, while Christian De Vero led the G-Stars with six points.

The game remained close in the second period and the score was knotted at 25-all at the break.

Then in the third period, the G-Stars found their rhythm to take a three-point advantage, 39-36, with a quarter to go. The G-Stars defense held the Sonics to only 11 points in the third quarter.

The G-Stars never relinquished the driver's seat in the final quarter, as they dominated possession of the ball. They played tough defense in the fourth, collared a lot of rebounds, and wisely chose high

See G-STARS on Page 27

WALTER SUTHERLAND

G-Stars and Sonics players watch Marvin Rabauliman glide for a layup during their game in the Rotary caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

AP

Manny Pacquiao, left, and Antonio Margarito will clash for the vacant World Boxing Council super welterweight crown on Nov. 13 in Arlington, Texas.

Margarito in great shape, a threat to Pacquiao

MANILA—Take it from venerable promoter Bob Arum.

Mexican warrior Antonio Margarito is in the best shape of his career and should pose a grave threat topound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao on Nov. 13.

Arum, who arrived in Manila Saturday morning from Las Vegas with his stepdaughter Dena DuBoef, told the Inquirer that Margarito is not going to waste the opportunity to redeem himself after his suspension and a long layoff.

"Look, if you were Margarito and you were suspended from boxing for a relatively long time and now you get the opportunity to be on this world stage, you are going to kill yourself to prepare," Arum said.

The 78-year-old Arum, chief honcho of Top Rank which promotes both Margarito and Pacquiao, said Margarito "is in the best shape that I've ever seen and would be a big danger to any welterweight in the world."

The boxing Hall-of-Famer noted, however, that "Pacquiao is something special and no matter how big they are Manny

See MARGARITO on Page 27